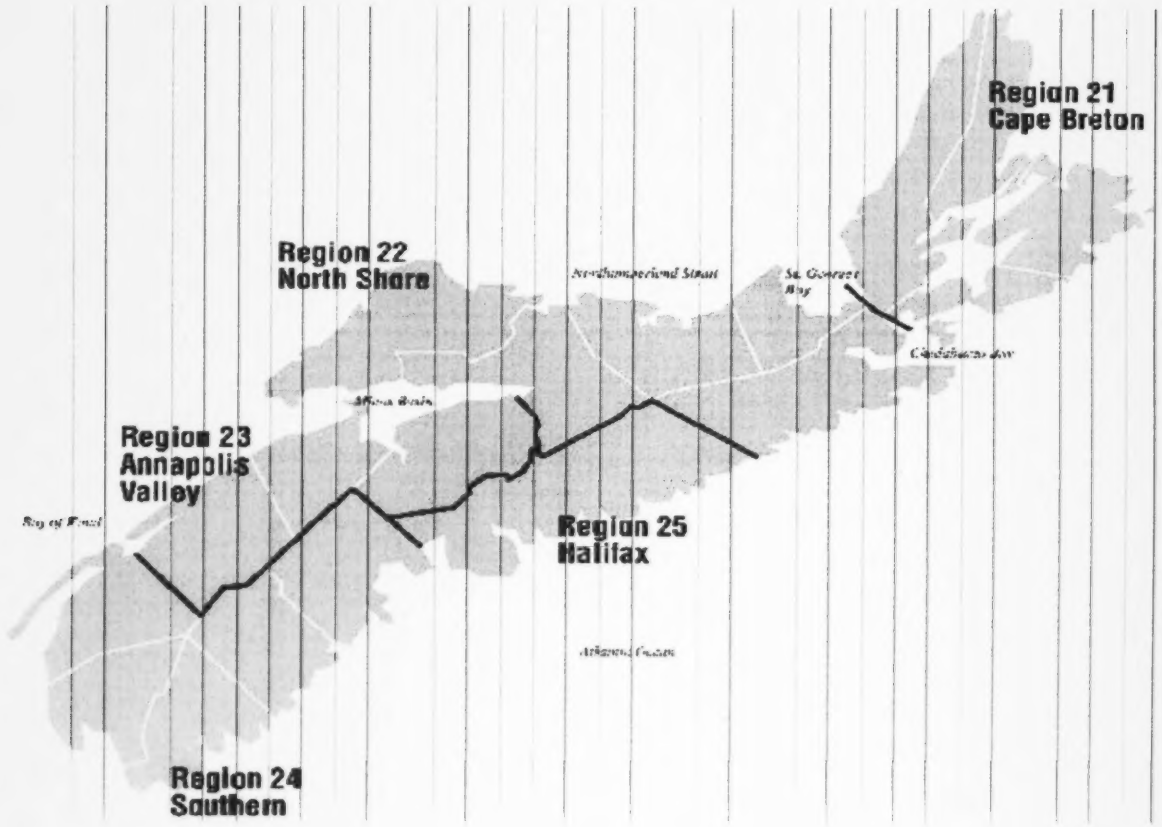
Nova Scotia Labour Market
January - December 2000



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance

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NOVA SCOTIA Department of Finance
Fiscal & Economic Policy
Statistics

February 4, 2000

Employment Numbers - JANUARY, 2000

NOTE: Changes with release of January 2000 data:

- ***All estimates produced by the Labour Force Survey have been adjusted to reflect population counts based on the 1996 Census.***
- ***Composite estimation, a new method of estimation that will reduce the volatility of month-to-month changes for a number of variables, has been adopted.***
- ***As a result of these two changes, all Labour Force Survey estimates have been revised back to January 1976. The revised historical data were available on CANSIM January 26, 2000.***

These changes result in somewhat lower labour force survey numbers; however, the overall growth in employment still mirrors the trends of the previously published labour force survey data.

Highlights:

Seasonally Adjusted (Monthly/Year over Year)[1]

Nova Scotia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for January 2000 was 9.7%. A year ago, January 1999, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 9.5%. Over the course of the last year, the labour force increased by a substantive 15,800, unemployment declined 2,500 and employment increase by 13,400 in Nova Scotia. Around the province, much of the employment strength continues to come in metro, where the unemployment rate is 6.7%, up slightly from 6.4% a year ago.

The growth of 4,600 jobs in Nova Scotia since last month builds on the increases in November and December. The gain of 7,700 over these three months represents nearly half of the province's year-over-year growth. An increase in labour force of 4,600 caused the unemployment rate to edge up 0.1 percentage point from December 1999.

Gains Since January 1995 (Seasonally Adjusted)

	Jan. 1995	*Jan. 2000*	*Change Jan. 1995-Jan. 2000*
Employment	*378,600*	*417,500*	*+38,900*
Unemployment	*53,000*	*45,000*	*-8,000*
Unemployment Rate	*12.3%*	*9.7%*	*-2.6 percentage points*

[1] The seasonally adjusted measurements are the best measure of short-term changes because they take into account shifts in employment that occur because of the changing seasons. The seasonally adjusted data gives a better picture of the underlying long-term trends.

The number of people employed in Nova Scotia in January 2000 is much higher than five years ago. Not only are more people working, there are fewer people unemployed. The unemployment rate has dropped from 12.3% to 9.7%.

Regional Analysis

These numbers use a different statistical measure, an unadjusted three-month moving average.[2] On a year over year basis, employment across the province has grown by 12,700 in the past year. Regions of the province that experienced employment growth included the Halifax Region (6,000), North Shore Region (3,700), Annapolis Valley Region (3,300) and Cape Breton Region (400). Employment declined by 800 in the Southern Region during the period.

All regions of the province with the exclusion of the Halifax Region showed an improvement in unemployment rates since January 1999. The North Shore Region was the most improved, followed by Cape Breton Region, the Annapolis Valley Region and the Southern Region.

	Jan. 1999	Dec. 1999	Jan. 2000	Change Jan. 1999-Jan. 2000
Cape Breton - Employed	50,100	50,800	50,500	+400 persons
- Unemployment Rate	20.6%	17.7%	19.3%	-1.3 percentage points
North Shore - Employed	64,600	69,100	68,300	+3,700 persons
- Unemployment Rate	10.9 %	8.0%	9.2%	-1.7 percentage points
Annapolis Valley - Employed	50,000	55,500	53,300	+3,300 persons
- Unemployment Rate	8.1%	6.9%	7.8%	-0.3 percentage points
Southern - Employed	52,500	52,900	51,700	-800 persons
- Unemployment Rate	11.3%	10.0%	11.1%	-0.2 percentage points
Halifax (HRM) - Employed	177,600	182,800	183,600	+6,000 persons
- Unemployment Rate	6.1%	6.7%	6.6%	+0.5 percentage points

Jobless by Province

The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged from last month at 6.8% and compared to 7.9% the same month a year ago. Here's what happened in the provinces, with the rate for the same month one year ago for comparison.

	Jan. 1999	Jan. 2000
Canada	7.9	6.8
Newfoundland	18.0	17.0
Prince Edward Island	16.1	12.5
Nova Scotia	***9.5***	***9.7***
New Brunswick	11.6	9.4
Québec	9.8	8.2
Ontario	6.6	5.7
Manitoba	5.8	5.2

[2]This smooths out errors that are due to the small size of the sample and also smooths out short-term volatility.

	Jan. 1999	Jan. 2000
Saskatchewan	6.4	5.1
Alberta	6.0	5.2
British Columbia	8.3	7.3

Jobless by City

Statistics Canada also released seasonally adjusted three-month moving average unemployment rates for major cities but cautioned that figures may fluctuate widely because they are based on small statistical samples. The rates for January for the following metropolitan areas across Canada are shown below. ***(Note: Extensive changes have been made to the Labour Force Survey; therefore, CMA data for January 1999 is not available at this time. Upon receipt, this report will be recreated and posted.)***

	Jan. 1999	Jan. 2000
St-John's Nfld.		10.3
Halifax		***6.7***
Saint John N.B.		8.0
Chicoutimi - Jonquiére		10.7
Québec		8.8
Trois-Rivières		9.4
Sherbrooke		9.4
Montréal		7.0
Ottawa-Hull		6.0
Sudbury		8.5
Oshawa		5.2
Toronto		5.5
Hamilton		4.1
St. Catharines - Niagara		7.2
London		5.3
Windsor		6.7
Kitchener		5.1
Thunder Bay		5.9
Winnipeg		5.6
Regina		4.7
Saskatoon		5.4
Calgary		5.6
Edmonton		5.0
Vancouver		7.2
Victoria		5.9

NOVA SCOTIA **Department of Finance**
Fiscal & Economic Policy
Statistics

March 10, 2000

Employment Numbers - FEBRUARY, 2000

NOTE Changes with release of January 2000 data:

- ***All estimates produced by the Labour Force Survey have been adjusted to reflect population counts based on the 1996 Census.***
- ***Composite estimation, a new method of estimation that will reduce the volatility of month-to-month changes for a number of variables, has been adopted.***
- ***As a result of these two changes, all Labour Force Survey estimates have been revised back to January 1976. The revised historical data were available on CANSIM January 26, 2000.***

Highlights:

Seasonally Adjusted (Monthly/Year over Year)[1]

Nova Scotia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February 2000 was %. A year ago, February 1999, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was %. Over the course of the last year, the labour force increased by a substantive , unemployment declined and employment increase by in Nova Scotia. Around the province, much of the employment strength continues to come in metro, where the unemployment rate is %, up slightly from % a year ago.

Gains Since February 1995 (Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb. 1995	*Feb. 2000*	*Change Feb. 1995-Feb. 2000*
Employment			+
Unemployment			-
Unemployment Rate	*%*	*%*	- *percentage points*

The number of people employed in Nova Scotia in February 2000 is much higher than five years ago. Not only are more people working, there are fewer people unemployed. The unemployment rate has dropped from % to %.

Regional Analysis

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[1] The seasonally adjusted measurements are the best measure of short-term changes because they take into account shifts in employment that occur because of the changing seasons. The seasonally adjusted data gives a better picture of the underlying long-term trends.

These numbers use a different statistical measure, an unadjusted three-month moving average.[2] On a year over year basis, employment across the province has grown by in the past year. Regions of the province that experienced employment growth included the Annapolis Valley ( ), the North Shore ( ) and Halifax Region ( ). Employment declined by in the Southern Region and by in the Cape Breton Region during this period.

All regions of the province with the exclusion of the Halifax Region showed an improvement in unemployment rates since February 1999. The North Shore Region was the most improved, followed by Cape Breton Region, the Annapolis Valley Region and the Southern Region.

	Feb. 1999	Jan. 2000	Feb. 2000	Change Feb. 1999-Feb. 2000
Cape Breton - Employed - Unemployment Rate	%	%	%	- persons percentage points
North Shore - Employed - Unemployment Rate	%	%	%	persons percentage points
Annapolis Valley - Employed - Unemployment Rate	%	%	%	persons percentage points
Southern - Employed - Unemployment Rate	%	%	%	persons percentage points
Halifax (HRM) - Employed - Unemployment Rate	%	%	%	persons percentage points

Jobless by Province

The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to %, compared to % the same month a year ago. Here's what happened in the provinces, with the rate for the same month one year ago for comparison.

	Feb. 1999	Feb. 2000
Canada		
Newfoundland		
Prince Edward Island		
Nova Scotia		
New Brunswick		
Québec		
Ontario		
Manitoba		
Saskatchewan		
Alberta		
British Columbia		

[2]This smooths out errors that are due to the small size of the sample and also smooths out short-term volatility.

Jobless by City

Statistics Canada also released seasonally adjusted three-month moving average unemployment rates for major cities but cautioned that figures may fluctuate widely because they are based on small statistical samples. The rates for February (this year and one year ago) for the following metropolitan areas across Canada are shown below.

	Feb. 1999	Feb. 2000
St-John's Nfld.		
Halifax		
Saint John N.B.		
Chicoutimi - Jonquiére		
Québec		
Trois-Rivières		
Sherbrooke		
Montréal		
Ottawa-Hull		
Sudbury		
Oshawa		
Toronto		
Hamilton		
St. Catharines - Niagara		
London		
Windsor		
Kitchener		
Thunder Bay		
Winnipeg		
Regina		
Saskatoon		
Calgary		
Edmonton		
Vancouver		
Victoria		

Provincial Data

Key Employment Indicators April 7, 2000

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(April 2000 will be released May 5, 2000)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release March 2000

Employment in Nova Scotia increased by 3,900 since last month. This growth in employment was accompanied by a slight increase in labour force (100) and a decline in unemployment of 3,900. The result was an unemployment rate of 8.9%, 0.8 percentage points lower than last month (the lowest level since February 1989). Comparing across the country, there was a noticeably strong employment growth of 28,100 in Ontario where their unemployment rate dropped 0.1 percentage point to 5.6%.

Since March 1999, employment has grown by 17,500 in Nova Scotia. Over 50% of that growth was attributed to the trade (6,100) and management, administrative & other support (3,400) industries within the service-producing sectors. The only significant decline during this period was in professional, scientific and technical services industries (3,500).

Between March 1999 and March 2000, employment by occupation indicates substantial growth within sales and service occupations of 12,600 (actual). Retail salespersons, sales clerks, cashiers, including retail trade supervisors occupations grew by 5,400, while wholesale, technical, insurance, real estate sales specialists and retail, wholesale and grain buyers increased by 4,100. Declines were noted in childcare and home support workers (1,800) and chefs and cooks and occupations in food and beverage service including supervisors (1,400).

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE - Employment by Industry, 1991-1999, Nova Scotia Economic Regions

Employment in Nova Scotia grew by 27,600 or 7.2% between 1991 and 1999. This growth was represented by an increase of 10% (29,800 more employed) within the service-producing sectors and a decline of 2.4% (2,200 fewer employed) within the goods-producing sector. Within the goods-producing sectors, the employment loss of 3,500 within the forestry, fishing, mining, oil & gas and 800 in utilities industries was somewhat offset by a gain of 2,900 within manufacturing industries. All service-producing industries experienced some growth. The more notable were increases in accommodation & food services industries (7,900 more employed), management of companies and administrative & other support services industries (employment up 6,100) and professional, scientific & technical services (grew by 5,600). The employment gain in the trade industries showed the smallest increase (400).

Comparing the change between 1991 and 1999 among the regions of the province, the only areas to register positive growth in employment within the goods-producing sector were the North Shore and Annapolis Valley regions. In both regions, the strength of this growth resulted from an approximate 20% increase in their manufacturing industry employment (2,300 more employed in North Shore and 1,300 more employed in

Annapolis Valley).

Between 1991 and 1999, the overall service-producing sector employment rose in all regions of the province (between 8% in the North Shore Region to 16% in Halifax Region. The Annapolis Valley and Cape Breton Regions showed positive movement in the trade industries (1,900 and 700 more employed respectively); Halifax, Cape Breton and North Shore Regions registered substantive increases in employment in the professional, scientific and technical services industries (3,800, 800 and 600 more employed respectively); nearly 60% of employment growth in Halifax Region was attributed to management of companies and administrative support industries and accommodation and food services industries. The only industry within the services-producing sector that showed decline during the 1991-1999 period was public administration. The region by region impact of employment lost in this industry was 3,200 - Halifax, 1,300 - Cape Breton, 500 - Southern, 400 - Annapolis Valley and no change in the North Shore region.

Change in Employment by Industry, 1991-1999, Nova Scotia & Economic Regions ('000)

		Economic Region				
	Nova Scotia	Cape Breton	North Shore	Anna. Valley	Southern	Halifax
Industry Total	27.6	1.6	5.0	3.6	2.0	15.3
Goods-Producing Sector	(2.2)	(2.0)	1.7	0.3	(1.2)	(0.9)
Agriculture	(0.2)		0.1	(0.3)	0.2	0.0
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	(3.5)	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.4)	(0.2)	0.2
Utilities	(0.8)	(2.6)	(0.5)	0.0	0.0	(0.6)
Construction	(0.5)	(0.8)	0.0	(0.3)	(0.7)	1.2
Manufacturing	2.9	1.4	2.3	1.3	(0.5)	(1.5)
Services-Producing Sector	29.8	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	16.2
Trade	0.4	0.7	(0.5)	1.9	(0.4)	(1.2)
Transportation and Warehousing	1.3	(0.4)	0.3	(0.1)	0.9	0.6
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	1.1	0.3	(0.3)	0.3	(0.1)	0.7
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5.6	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.1	3.8
Management of Companies and Administrative and Other Support Services	6.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.6	4.9
Educational Services	1.6	0.8	0.6	(0.6)	(0.1)	0.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	4.6	1.8	0.9	0.2	1.1	0.6
Information, Culture and Recreation	2.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	(0.1)	1.8
Accommodation and Food Services	7.9	0.2	0.8	1.3	0.9	4.6
Other Services	4.3	(0.2)	1.0	(0.1)	1.0	2.8
Public Administration	(5.4)	(1.3)	0.0	(0.4)	(0.5)	(3.2)

Source: Derived from data in Statistics Canada CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, Historic Labour Force Review 1999.

Economic Regions *- LFS Economic Regions (ERs) have been established at each decennial sample redesign in consultation with the provinces. The regions generally correspond to regions used by the province for administrative and statistical purposes.*

Employment *- Employment persons are those who, during the reference week (a) did any work at all at a job or business (employer-employee relationship, self-employment, unpaid family work which contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business or professional practice owned and oeprated by a related member of the same household or (b) had a job but were not at work due to factors such as own illness/disability, personal or family responsibilities, vacation, labour dispute or other reasons (excluding persons on layoff, between casual jobs and those with a job to start at a future date).*

Goods Producing Industries *(or goods sector, or goods industries) - Includes agriculture; forestry, fishing, mining and oil/gas extraction; utilities (electric power, gas & water); construction and manufacturing.*

Industry *- The general nature of the business carried out by the employer for whom the respondent works (main job only). If a person did not have a job during the survey reference week, the information is collected for the last job held, providing the person worked within the previous twelve months.*

Service Producing Industries *(or service sector or service industries) - Includes trade; transportation and warehousing; finance, insurance, real estate and leasing; professional, scientific and technical services; management, administrative and other support; educational services; health care and social assistance; information, culture an recreation; accommodation and food services; other services and public administration.*

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Employment Insurance Benefits, Nova Scotia - Actual

(February 2000 will be released April 28, 2000)

The number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries, the duration of payments and the total benefits paid are declining at the national level and in all provinces. In Nova Scotia, an average of 36,657 people received Employment Insurance (EI) benefits monthly in 1999, down 4.5% from 1998, while total benefit payments during this period decreased 1.8% to $555.2 million. Comparing the month of January 2000 to January 1999, the number of beneficiaries was up 1.9% (to 48,060) and total benefits paid ($66,843 million) increased 17.2%.

Employment Insurance Benefits, Nova Scotia - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Jan. 1999	Jan. 2000
Benefits Paid ($'000)	796,187	588,369	565,497	555,166	57,054	66,843
Avg. Monthly Beneficiaries (#)	59,330	40,348	38,386	36,657	–	–

Note: A new production system and methodology was introduced starting with October 1999 data (use of geographic coding from the 1996 Census and the latest postal code file, inclusion of reimbursements to the EI program for more accurate data on total benefits paid, revised seasonal factors and separate publishing of transfers to provinces).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735 and 5736)

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

(January, February & March 2000 will be released May 31, 2000)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. All provinces and territories registered increases in wages and salaries ranging from 9.1% in the Northwest Territories to 2.2% in British Columbia. The 5.3% growth in total wages and salaries in Nova Scotia during 1999 was slightly higher than the overall Canadian increase of 4.6%.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual .

	1994	1997	1998	1999
Total Wages & Salaries	8,984.3	9,469.1	9,810.1	10,334.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

(February 2000 will be released April 27, 2000)

In 1999, the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. January 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $518.81, 2.6% over January

1999. Canada's $619.29 represented an increase of 2.2% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries*. In December, the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,113 compared to $870 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $473 nationally and $398 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Jan. 2000
Industrial Aggregate	$495.55	$501.47	$510.35	$518.06p	$518.82p
Goods Producing	595.88	639.56	655.81	661.07	*
Forestry	491.94	512.84	480.27	474.31	*
Mining	845.03	790.39	849.19	870.37	*
Manufacturing	580.27	651.62	668.26	693.17	*
Construction	547.04	605.82	598.29	567.21	*
Service Producing	471.51	469.28	475.78	484.37	*
Transp., Commun.	639.94	627.19	628.00	652.40	*
Trade	350.06	375.60	390.97	398.44	*
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	560.56	608.00	582.06	593.55	*
Community, Bus. & Personal	443.44	432.17	442.13	445.52	*
Public Administration	672.24	657.79	658.07	678.12	*

* *Detailed industry data for January 2000 will be available in late April.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

(March 2000 will be released April 12, 2000)

The February 2000 help-wanted index increased or remained the same from the previous month in all provinces with the exception of Quebec (-1.2%). Prince Edward Island registered the strongest growth at 5.5% compared to Canadian's overall increase of 1.2%.

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100
-seasonally adjusted-

	Feb. 2000	% Change Feb.'99/Feb.'00	% Change Jan.'00/Feb.'00
Nova Scotia	168	7.0	0.6
Canada	170	13.3	1.2

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrix 105)

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(4th Quarter and annual 1999 release is expected late May 2000)

	1994*	1997*	1998*	3rd Qtr 1999**	% Change 3rd Qtr '98/ 3rd Qtr '99
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	24,963	23,863	23,615	-1.7
Military	14,865	12,568	12,186	11,585	-4.9
Provincial					
General	13,963	13,855	13,932	15,209	4.8
Universities & Colleges	9,465	9,713	8,755	6,528	-12.9
Health & Social Services Institutions	27,684	25,354	26,054	26,840	1.9
Local General Government	7,930	7,867	7,698	7,901	-1.9
School Boards	16,765	16,954	17,012	13,244	0.4
Total Government	**105,897**	**98,903**	**97,296**	**93,337**	**-0.3**
Government Business Enterprises	**8,594**	**8,324**	**8,196**	**7,181**	**-12.3**
Total Public Sector	**114,492**	**107,226**	**105,492**	**100,518**	**-1.3**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not directly comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools, etc.

Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports

Key Employment Indicators May 5, 2000

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(May 2000 will be released June 9, 2000)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release April 2000

On a seasonally adjusted basis, April's employment in Nova Scotia increased 2,100 over March. The growth in employment was accompanied by a slight increase in labour force (200), and a significant drop in the number of unemployed (1,900). The rate of unemployment fell by 0.5% to 8.4%, the lowest since April 1976. The participation rate was unchanged.

In Canada, employment increased slightly by 4,800. All provinces east of Saskatchewan experienced employment increases. The most significant increases occurred in Quebec and Manitoba, where employment rose by 9,900 and 5,300 respectively. Employment in British Columbia declined 9,600.

Since April 1999, employment in Nova Scotia has grown by 13,600. Almost 98% of this growth has occurred in the service sector. On a year over year basis, significant increases occurred in Information, Culture and Recreation (17.1%), Management and Administrative (10.9%) and Trade (7.1%). Only three sectors, Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; Manufacturing; and Transportation and Warehousing recorded employment declines at 17.5%, 6.2% and 3.4%.

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE - **Not in the Labour Force**

Who makes up this component of the population 15+?

Persons *not in the labour force* are those who, during the *Labour Force Survey* reference week, were unwilling or unable to offer or supply labour services under conditions existing in their labour markets, that is, they were neither employed or unemployed, e.g.,

- " own illness or disability
- " caring for own children
- " caring for elder relative (60 years of age or older)
- " pregnancy (females only)
- " other personal or family responsibilities
- " going to school
- " lost job, laid off or job ended (employees only)
- " business sold or closed down (self-employed only)
- " changed residence
- " dissatisfied with job
- " retired

In 1999, there were 288,800 Nova Scotians 15+ that were *not in the labour force (39% of population 15+)*. What are the traits of these people? The labour force survey provides data on the basic characteristics and educational attainment of those *not in the labour force*, by age and sex, as

well as, total *not in the labour force* by economic region.

Although the absolute number of people 15+ that are *not in the labour force* has increased between 1991 and 1999, the labour force has grown as a similar pace, and thus, the ratio of *not in the labour force* to total labour force has remained about the same. The proportion of males/females has changed little over this period. Persons 65+ comprise about 40% of the total population 15+ *not in the labour force*. There was an apparent downturn in the percentage of people *not in the labour force* in the age groups 15-24 and 25-44 and a noticeable increase in the 45-54 year age grouping (7,200 total or 4,800 males and 2,300 females) and in the 65+ age group (8,300 total or 2,700 males and 5,600 females), e.g., growth in the ageing population and retirement, including an increase in early retirement.

Population 15+ *Not in the Labour Force*, Nova Scotia, 1999

	1991			1999		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Total Population 15+	339800	363800	703500	356100	384700	740800
Total in Labour Force	238,600	195,000	433,600	240,900	211,100	452,000
Total Not in Labour Force	101,100	168,800	269,900	115,200	173,600	288,800
% of Population 15+						
In Labour Force	70.2	53.6	61.6	67.6	54.9	61.0
Not in Labour Force	29.8	46.4	38.4	32.4	45.1	39.0
Not in Labour Force						
By Age Group - %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-24	23.6	14.9	18.2	20.1	13.9	16.4
25-44	12.1	21.5	18.0	11.5	18.8	15.9
45-54	5.9	11.3	9.3	9.4	12.3	11.1
55-64	15.3	16.3	16.0	18.9	16.7	17.6
65+	43.0	36.0	38.6	40.1	38.2	39.0

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

About one-third of the 288,800 *not in the labour force* across the province in 1999 were within the Halifax Region. The overall change in those *not in the labour force* between 1991 and 1999 (+18,900) was also most significant in Halifax Region (72% of the total provincial increase). In the 1991 to 1999 period, Cape Breton and the Southern regions of the province registered declines in those *not in the labour force* (-2,500 and -900 respectively). Cape Breton Region is the only region of Nova Scotia where the number of people 15+ working (supporting) is less than the number in that age group that are not working (supported)–in 1999 there were 59,400 *not in the labour force* compared to 52,700 employed).

Labour Force Characteristics, Nova Scotia, by Economic Regions, 1991-1999

	Population		Labour Force		Employed		Unemployed		Not in Labour Force		Unemployment %		Participation %	
		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999
	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 '000s	1999 %	1999 % Points	1999 %	1999 % Points
Nova Scotia	740,800	37,300	452,000	18,400	408,600	27,600	43,300	(9,300)	288,800	18,900	9.6	(2.5)	61.0	(0.6)
Economic Region														
Cape Breton	123,200	(1,700)	83,800	800	72,700	1,600	11,100	(800)	59,400	(2,500)	17.4	(1.5)	51.8	1.4
North Shore	132,000	4,400	76,000	1,800	68,000	5,000	8,000	(3,300)	56,000	2,600	10.5	(4.7)	57.6	(0.6)
Annapolis Valley	98,300	8,200	57,800	2,000	53,000	3,800	4,800	(1,500)	40,400	6,100	8.3	(3.0)	58.8	(3.1)
Southern	103,600	1,000	60,800	1,900	54,500	2,000	6,300	(100)	42,800	(900)	10.4	(0.5)	58.7	1.3
Halifax	286,700	25,400	193,500	11,800	180,400	15,300	13,100	(3,500)	90,300	13,700	6.8	(2.3)	68.2	(2.1)

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

Between 1991 and 1999, the increase of 18,900 persons *not in the labour force* was dominated by males (14,100) versus females (4,800). There was a decline in the number of both males and females *not in the labour force* with "some high school or less" education, while those with a "post-secondary certificate or diploma" increased (males +7,600 and females +11,900). There were a greater number of women than men *not in the labour force* in 1999 (173,600 females vs. 115,200 males); however, since 1991, there has been less change in the number of females 15+ *not in the labour force and* these females have made greater strides in their level of educational attainment.

Educational Attainment of Persons 15+, Not in the Labour Force, Nova Scotia, 1991-1999

	Male				Female				Total			
	1991 '000s	1999 '000s	Change 1991-1999 '000s	1999- % of Total	1991 '000s	1999 '000s	Change 1991-1999 '000s	1999- % of Total	1991 '000s	1999 '000s	Change 1991-1999 '000s	1999- % of Total
Education level												
Total	101.1	115.2	14.1	100.0	168.8	173.6	4.8	100.0	269.9	288.8	18.9	100.0
0 - 8 years	29.8	28.7	(1.1)	24.9	34.2	28.4	(5.8)	16.4	64.0	57.2	(6.8)	19.8
Some high school	37.4	35.8	(1.6)	31.1	64.7	57.9	(6.8)	33.4	102.1	93.7	(8.4)	32.4
High school graduate	8.7	11.4	2.7	9.9	21.2	22.4	1.2	12.9	30.0	33.8	3.8	11.7
Some post-secondary	6.2	8.4	2.2	7.3	8.4	10.6	2.2	6.1	14.6	18.9	4.3	6.5
Post-secondary cert./diploma	14.5	22.1	7.6	19.2	32	43.9	11.9	25.3	46.5	66.0	19.5	22.9
University degree	4.4	8.8	4.4	7.6	8.3	10.4	2.1	6.0	12.7	19.2	6.5	6.6
Bachelor's degree	2.7	4.6	1.9	4.0	6.6	7.7	1.1	4.4	9.3	12.3	3.0	4.3
Graduate degree	1.7	4.2	2.5	3.6	1.7	2.8	1.1	1.6	3.4	6.9	3.5	2.4

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Employment Insurance Benefits

(March 2000 will be released May 24, 2000)

The number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries, the duration of payments and the total benefits paid are declining at the national level and in all provinces. In Nova Scotia, an average of 36,657 people received Employment Insurance (EI) benefits monthly in 1999, down 4.5% from 1998, while total benefit payments during this period decreased 1.8% to $555.2 million. Comparing the month of February 2000 to February 1999, the number of beneficiaries was up 3.2% (to 49,370) and total benefits paid ($56,680 million) increased 4.7%.

Employment Insurance Benefits, Nova Scotia - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Feb. 1999	Feb. 2000
Benefits Paid ($'000)	796,187	588,369	565,497	555,166	56,021	58,680
Avg. Monthly Beneficiaries (#)	59,330	40,348	38,386	36,657	-	-

Note: A new production system and methodology was introduced starting with October 1999 data (use of geographic coding from the 1996 Census and the latest postal code file, inclusion of reimbursements to the EI program for more accurate data on total benefits paid, revised seasonal factors and separate publishing of transfers to provinces).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735 and 5736)

Total Wages & Salaries

(January, February & March 2000 will be released May 31, 2000)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. All provinces and territories registered increases in wages and salaries ranging from 9.1% in the Northwest Territories to 2.2% in British Columbia. The 5.3% growth in total wages and salaries in Nova Scotia during 1999 was slightly higher than the overall Canadian increase of 4.6%.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999
Total Wages & Salaries	8,984.3	9,469.1	9,810.1	10,334.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry

(March 2000 will be released May 29, 2000)

In 1999, the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. February 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $518.11, 1.4% over February 1999. Canada's $622.27 represented an increase of 2.9% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries*. In January 2000, the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,118 compared to $835 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $475 nationally and $388 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

	1994	1998	1999	Jan. 2000	Feb. 2000
Industrial Aggregate	$495.55	$510.35	$518.06p	$518.14p	$518.11p
Goods Producing	595.88	655.81	660.78	675.48	*
Forestry	491.94	480.27	470.57	468.38	*
Mining	845.03	849.19	868.97	835.13	*
Manufacturing	580.27	668.26	692.96	717.62	*
Construction	547.04	598.29	567.18	558.89	*
Service Producing	471.51	475.78	483.69	484.45	*
Transp., Communications	639.94	628.00	652.26	683.88	*
Trade	350.06	390.97	397.44	387.92	*
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	560.56	582.06	592.66	581.04	*
Community, Bus. & Personal	443.44	442.13	445.04	448.31	*
Public Administration	672.24	658.07	677.98	688.44	*

* *Detailed industry data for February 2000 will be available in late May.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Beginning with January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will be based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC).

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100

-seasonally adjusted-

The April 2000 help-wanted index declined in most provinces on a month over basis. Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland showed the greatest growth (5.3% and 2.2% respectively). Nova Scotia and Alberta were the only other provinces to register increases.

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

	Apr. 2000	% Change Apr.'99-Apr.'00	% Change Mar.'00-Apr.'00
Nova Scotia	172	4.9	1.8
Canada	167	7.1	-2.3

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons. The historical revision of the help-wanted index implemented with the March 2000 data released monthly revisions from January 1997.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrix 105)

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(4th Quarter and annual 1999 release is expected late May 2000)

	1994*	1997*	1998*	3rd Qtr 1999**	% Change 3rd Qtr '98-3rd Qtr '99
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	24,963	23,863	23,615	-1.7
Military	14,865	12,568	12,186	11,585	-4.9
Provincial General	13,963	13,855	13,932	15,209	4.8
Universities & Colleges	9,465	9,713	8,755	6,528	-12.9
Health & Social Services Institutions	27,684	25,354	26,054	26,840	1.9
Local General Government	7,930	7,867	7,698	7,901	-1.9
School Boards	16,765	16,954	17,012	13,244	0.4
Total Government	**105,897**	**98,903**	**97,296**	**93,337**	**-0.3**
Government Business Enterprises	**8,594**	**8,324**	**8,196**	**7,181**	**-12.3**
Total Public Sector	**114,492**	**107,226**	**105,492**	**100,518**	**-1.3**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools in particular

Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports

Department of Finance
Fiscal & Economic Policy
Statistics

Key Employment Indicators June 9, 2000

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(June 2000 will be released July 7, 2000)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release May 2000

On a seasonally adjusted basis, May's employment in Nova Scotia decreased by 2,700 since last month. The decline in employment was accompanied by a decrease in the labour force of 4,300 and a drop in the number of unemployed of 1,500. The rate of unemployment fell by 0.2 percentage points to 8.2%. The participation rate also declined slightly (0.6 percentage points). Since May 1999, employment in Nova Scotia has grown by 9,800.

Unemployment in Halifax Metro fell to 5.7% in May (from 6.8% in May 1999) and represented a 1.0 percentage point decline since January 2000. In May 2000, the metro unemployment rate followed only Saint John's 5.6% as the lowest rate east of Ottawa.

From May to August, the Labour Force Survey identifies young people aged 15-25 who were attending school full-time in March and intending to return to school in the fall. The May survey results are an early indication of the summer job market for older students aged 20-24 while many of the younger students are still in high school. June, July and August survey results will provide further indication of the summer student job market.

May 2000 survey results indicate that the summer job market has started on a very positive note in Nova Scotia. About 59.8% of students aged 20-24 had jobs in May, up 9.6 percentage points from May 1999. Those working full-time represented 64.7% of the employed, compared to 46.1% in May 1999. Among this group, the unemployment rate was 20.1%, down substantially from 31.1% the same month last year.

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE - **Not in the Labour Force**

Who makes up this component of the population 15+?

Persons *not in the labour force* are those who, during the *Labour Force Survey* reference week, were unwilling or unable to offer or supply labour services under conditions existing in their labour markets, that is, they were neither employed or unemployed, e.g.,

- " own illness or disability
- " caring for own children
- " caring for elder relative (60 years of age or older)
- " pregnancy (females only)

- " other personal or family responsibilities
- " going to school
- " lost job, laid off or job ended (employees only)
- " business sold or closed down (self-employed only)
- " changed residence
- " dissatisfied with job
- " retired

In 1999, there were 288,800 Nova Scotians 15+ that were *not in the labour force (39% of population 15+)*. What are the traits of these people? The labour force survey provides data on the basic characteristics and educational attainment of those *not in the labour force*, by age and sex, as well as, total *not in the labour force* by economic region.

Although the absolute number of people 15+ that are *not in the labour force* has increased between 1991 and 1999, the labour force has grown at a similar pace, and thus, the ratio of *not in the labour force* to total labour force has remained about the same. The proportion of males/females has changed little over this period. Persons 65+ comprise about 40% of the total population 15+ *not in the labour force*. There was an apparent downturn in the percentage of people *not in the labour force* in the age groups 15-24 and 25-44 and a noticeable increase in the 45-54 year age grouping (7,200 total or 4,800 males and 2,300 females) and in the 65+ age group (8,300 total or 2,700 males and 5,600 females), e.g., growth in the ageing population and retirement, including an increase in early retirement.

Population 15+ *Not in the Labour Force*, Nova Scotia, 1999

	1991			1999		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Total Population 15+	339800	363800	703500	356100	384700	740800
Total in Labour Force	238,600	195,000	433,600	240,900	211,100	452,000
Total Not in Labour Force	**101,100**	**168,800**	**269,900**	**115,200**	**173,600**	**288,800**
% of Population 15+						
In Labour Force	70.2	53.6	61.6	67.6	54.9	61.0
Not in Labour Force	29.8	46.4	38.4	32.4	45.1	39.0
Not in Labour Force						
By Age Group - %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-24	23.6	14.9	18.2	20.1	13.9	16.4
25-44	12.1	21.5	18.0	11.5	18.8	15.9
45-54	5.9	11.3	9.3	9.4	12.3	11.1
55-64	15.3	16.3	16.0	18.9	16.7	17.6
65+	43.0	36.0	38.6	40.1	38.2	39.0

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM "1F0004XCB, 1999

About one-third of the 288,800 *not in the labour force* across the province in 1999 were within the Halifax Region. The overall change in those *not in the labour force* between 1991 and 1999 (+18,900) was also most significant in Halifax Region (72% of the total provincial increase). In the 1991 to 1999 period, Cape Breton and the Southern regions of the province registered declines in those *not in the labour force* (-2,500 and -900 respectively). Cape Breton Region is the only region of Nova Scotia where the number of people 15+ working (supporting) is less than the number in that age group that are not working (supported)–in 1999 there were 59,400 *not in the labour force* compared to 52,700 employed).

Labour Force Characteristics, Nova Scotia, by Economic Regions, 1991-1999

	Population		*Labour Force*		*Employed*		*Unemployed*		*Not in Labour Force*		*Unemployment %*		*Participation %*	
		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999		Change 1991-1999	1999	Change 1991-1999	1999	Change 1991-1999
	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s	%	% Points	%	% Points
Nova Scotia	740,800	37,300	452,000	16,400	409,000	27,600	43,300	(9,300)	288,800	18,900	9.6	(2.5)	61.0	(0.6)
Economic Region														
Cape Breton	125,200	(1,700)	63,900	800	52,700	1,600	11,100	(900)	59,400	(2,500)	17.4	(1.5)	51.8	1.4
North Shore	132,000	4,400	76,000	1,800	68,000	5,000	8,000	(3,300)	56,000	2,600	10.5	(4.7)	57.6	(0.8)
Annapolis Valley	98,300	8,200	57,800	2,000	53,000	3,800	4,800	(1,900)	40,400	6,100	8.3	(3.0)	58.8	(3.1)
Southern	103,600	1,000	60,800	1,900	54,900	2,000	6,300	(100)	42,800	(900)	10.4	(0.5)	58.7	1.3
Halifax	286,700	25,400	193,300	11,800	180,400	15,300	13,100	(3,500)	90,300	13,700	6.8	(2.3)	68.2	(2.1)

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

Between 1991 and 1999, the increase of 18,900 persons *not in the labour force* was dominated by males (14,100) versus females (4,800). There was a decline in the number of both males and females *not in the labour force* with some high school or less education, while those with a post-secondary certificate or diploma increased (males +7,600 and females +11,900). There were a greater number of women than men *not in the labour force* in 1999 (173,600 females vs. 115,200 males); however, since 1991, there has been less change in the number of females 15+ *not in the labour force and* these females have made greater strides in their level of educational attainment.

Educational Attainment of Persons 15+, Not in the Labour Force, Nova Scotia, 1991-1999

	Male				Female				Total			
	1991	1999	Change 1991-1999	1999- % of Total	1991	1999	Change 1991-1999	1999- % of Total	1991	1999	Change 1991-1999	1999- % of Total
	'000s	'000s	'000s		'000s	'000s	'000s		'000s	'000s	'000s	
Education level												
Total	101.1	115.2	14.1	100.0	168.8	173.6	4.8	100.0	269.9	288.8	18.9	100.0
0 - 8 years	29.8	28.7	(1.1)	24.9	34.2	28.4	(5.8)	16.4	64.0	57.2	(6.8)	19.8
Some high school	37.4	35.8	(1.6)	31.1	64.7	57.9	(6.8)	33.4	102.1	93.7	(8.4)	32.4
High school graduate	8.7	11.4	2.7	9.9	21.2	22.4	1.2	12.9	30.0	33.8	3.8	11.7
Some post-secondary	6.2	8.4	2.2	7.3	8.4	10.6	2.2	6.1	14.6	18.9	4.3	6.5
Post-secondary cert./diploma	14.5	22.1	7.6	19.2	32.0	43.9	11.9	25.3	46.5	66.0	19.5	22.9
University degree	4.4	8.8	4.4	7.6	8.3	10.4	2.1	6.0	12.7	19.2	6.5	6.6
Bachelor's degree	2.7	4.6	1.9	4.0	6.6	7.7	1.1	4.4	9.3	12.3	3.0	4.3
Graduate degree	1.7	4.2	2.5	3.6	1.7	2.8	1.1	1.6	3.4	6.9	3.5	2.4

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Employment Insurance Benefits

(April 2000 will be released June 21, 2000)

The number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries, the duration of payments and the total benefits paid are declining at the national level and in all provinces. In Nova Scotia, an average of 36,657 people received Employment Insurance (EI) benefits monthly in 1999, down 4.5% from 1998, while total benefit payments during this period decreased 1.8% to $555.2 million. Comparing the month of March 2000 to March 1999, the number of beneficiaries declined less than 0.1% (to 48,540) and total benefits paid ($61,041 million) represented a decrease of 8.6%.

Employment Insurance Benefits, Nova Scotia - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999		Mar. 1999	Mar. 2000	
Benefits Paid ($'000)		796,187	588,369	565,497	555,166		66,779	61,041
Avg. Monthly Beneficiaries (#)		59,330	40,348	38,386	36,657		–	–

Note: A new production system and methodology was introduced starting with October 1999 data (use of geographic coding from the 1996 Census and the latest postal code file, inclusion of reimbursements to the EI program for more accurate data on total benefits paid, revised seasonal factors and separate publishing of transfers to provinces).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735 and 5736)

Total Wages & Salaries

(April 2000 will be released July 5, 2000)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. The annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 5.3% in both Nova Scotia and Canada in 1999.

Growth in total wages in salaries between January to March 2000 over the same period in 1999 was 5.3% in Nova Scotia and 6.6% for Canada.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

1994	1997	1998	1999		Jan -Mar 1999	Jan -Mar 2000

Total Wages & Salaries	8,984.3	9,478.2	10,122.7	10,659.2	2,507.0	2,640.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry

(April 2000 will be released June 28, 2000)

In 1999, the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. March 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $524.03, 1.3% over March 1999. Canada's $624.16 represented an increase of 3.1% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries*. In February 2000, the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,153 compared to $832 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $473 nationally and $383 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

	1994	1998	1999	Feb. 2000	Mar. 2000
Industrial Aggregate	$495.55	$510.35	$518.06	$517.22	$524.03p
Goods Producing	595.88	655.81	660.67	675.64	*
Forestry	491.94	480.27	472.15	524.48	*
Mining	845.03	849.19	870.31	831.52	*
Manufacturing	580.27	668.26	692.80	711.80	*
Construction	547.04	598.29	568.39	565.39	*
Service Producing	471.51	475.78	483.74	483.45	*
Transp., Communications	639.94	628.00	652.56	685.14	*
Trade	350.06	390.97	397.46	383.04	*
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	560.56	582.06	592.30	572.60	*
Community, Bus. & Personal	443.44	442.13	445.10	449.75	*
Public Administration	672.24	658.07	678.04	687.46	*

* *Detailed industry data for March 2000 will be available in late June.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Beginning with January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will be based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC).

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

(June 2000 will be released July 6, 2000)

The May 2000 help-wanted index increased by 1.2% to 169 in Canada. On a month over month basis, the index increased or remained the same in all provinces except Nova Scotia (-0.6%) and New Brunswick (-2.6%)

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

	May 2000	% Change May'99-May'00	% Change Apr.'00-May'00
Nova Scotia	171	3.6	-0.6
Canada	169	7.0	1.2

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons. The historical revision of the help-wanted index implemented with the March 2000 data released monthly revisions from January 1997.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrix 105)

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

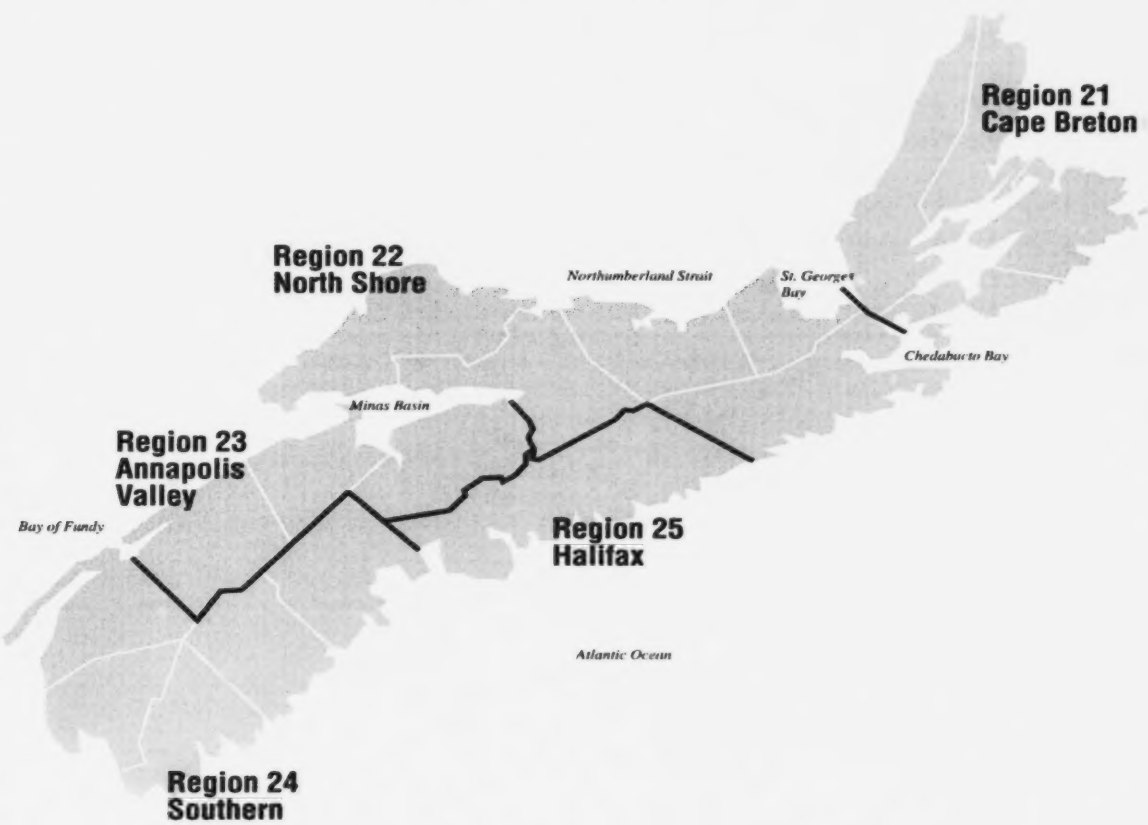
	1994	1997	1998	1999	% Change 1994-1999
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	24,963	23,863	23,328	-23.0
Military	14,865	12,568	12,186	11,676	-21.5
Provincial General	13,963	11,458	11,450	11,857	-15.1
Universities & Colleges	9,465	11,088	10,127	9,093	-3.9
Health & Social Services Institutions	27,467	25,551	26,038	26,753	-2.6
Local General Government	7,930	7,867	7,698	7,552	-4.8
School Boards	16,765	16,954	17,014	17,036	1.6
Total Government	**105,898**	**97,881**	**96,190**	**95,619**	**-9.7**
Government Business Enterprises	**8,594**	**8,324**	**8,196**	**7,062**	**-17.8**
Total Public Sector	**114,492**	**106,205**	**104,386**	**102,681**	**-10.3**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools in particular

Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports

Nova Scotia Labour Market
June 2000



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Statistics Division

Key Employment Indicators July 7, 2000

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(July 2000 will be released August 4, 2000)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release June 2000

On a seasonally adjusted basis, June's employment in Nova Scotia had a small decrease of 800 since last month, but an increase of 9,200 since June 1999. A slight increase in the labour force over May means that the unemployment rate increased by 0.2 points to 8.4% compared to May 2000. However, the steady downward trend continues and the unemployment rate is 0.6 points lower than June 1999. The participation rate remains unchanged, over May, at 61.3%.

Although the seasonally adjusted numbers showed a slight decline in employment, the actual number of full-time jobs increased by 15,100 while part-time jobs decreased 6,300 for a net gain of 8,800. Improvements in youth employment are the strongest of all the provinces. Youth unemployment (ages 15-24) decreased to 12.6% in June. This is down from 17.5% in May 2000 and 19.2% in June 1999.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the Cape Breton unemployment rate dropped from 16.9% in May to 16.0% in June 2000 and is up slightly from 15.8% in June 1999. All other regions showed lower unemployment rates on a month over month and year over year basis. Unemployment in Halifax Metro fell to 5.4% in June (from 6.6% in June, 1999) and represented a 1.3 percentage point decline since January 2000. In June 2000, the metro unemployment rate of 5.4% was the lowest rate east of Ottawa (5.3%).

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE - Union Status of Employees

Beginning in January 1997, the Labour Force Survey was expanded to include a question on the union status of employees. Union status data is available on an annual and monthly basis for Canada and the provinces.

Although data is only available for a short period of time, the union status of employees statistics offer a number of interesting insights. Nationally, 32.2% of all employees belonged to a union or were covered by a union contract in 1999. Newfoundland, followed closely by Quebec, had the highest degree of unionization with 40.0% and 39.5% respectively. Alberta and New Brunswick had the lowest levels of unionization with 25.3% and 27.9% of employees unionized. In each of the three years, Nova Scotia has been below the national level of unionization. In 1999, 30.0% of employees in Nova Scotia were unionized.

The degree of unionization in the Maritime provinces and Ontario have been considerably lower than that of the Prairie provinces (except Alberta) and British Columbia.

Union Coverage and Unionization Rate, Canada and the Provinces, 1997-1999

	Union Coverage (THOUSANDS OF PERSONS)			Unionization Rate (%)		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
Canada	3,843.8	3,847.7	3,882.3	33.7	32.8	32.2
Newfoundland	66.8	65.9	71.3	40.8	39.9	40.0
Prince Edward Island	14.2	14.1	14.6	29.1	29.0	29.4
Nova Scotia	98.3	104.9	104.6	30.3	31.0	30.0
New Brunswick	79.8	80.1	79.6	30.1	29.3	27.9
Québec	1,122.7	1,103.3	1,123.6	41.4	39.8	39.5
Ontario	1,328.6	1,352.9	1,344.7	29.8	29.2	28.1
Manitoba	161.9	157.6	165.3	37.6	35.6	36.9
Saskatchewan	126.6	126.8	126.5	35.9	35.8	35.2
Alberta	297.3	309.2	316.2	25.8	25.5	25.3
British Columbia	547.5	532.7	535.9	36.3	36.0	35.4

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

Union status of employees also varies significantly by industry. In Nova Scotia, in 1999, the most highly unionized industries were involved with the delivery of public services including educational services (69.1%), public administration (62.4%) and health care and social assistance (59.0%). The utilities' industry is also highly unionized with 65.0% of employees covered by a union. Industries with the lowest degree of unionization are agriculture (0.0%), management of companies and administrative and other services (4.6%), professional, scientific and technical services (5.0%), and accommodation and food services (5.0%).

Unionization by Industry, Nova Scotia and Canada, 1997-1999

	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
Total	30.3	31.0	30.0	33.7	32.8	32.2
Goods-Producing Sector	33.9	32.8	29.1	35.3	33.9	33.2
Agriculture	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	4.5	3.8
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	34.9	33.9	33.0	30.8	29.2	28.6
Utilities	69.6	61.1	65.0	72.3	70.7	72.0
Construction	37.9	32.9	30.2	32.4	31.8	31.9
Manufacturing	32.2	34.4	29.2	36.3	34.8	33.7
Services-Producing Sector	29.4	30.6	30.3	33.1	32.5	31.8
Trade	5.9	5.2	6.0	14.9	14.2	13.9
Transportation and Warehousing	45.0	50.6	54.2	45.2	46.8	44.4
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	4.9	4.7	5.3	10.4	9.8	9.7
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	0.0	5.0	5.0	5.9	6.2	5.7
Management of Companies and Administrative	8.5	7.6	4.6	15.1	14.6	11.9
Educational Services	72.4	73.4	69.1	73.5	73.0	73.6
Health Care and Social Assistance	49.1	53.5	59.0	55.8	55.4	54.7
Information, Culture and Recreation	24.8	25.2	27.5	30.3	29.8	28.6
Accommodation and Food Services	6.9	6.0	5.0	8.7	8.4	7.0
Other Services	6.7	7.5	7.1	10.9	11.4	10.2
Public Administration	61.4	65.5	62.4	71.4	69.5	70.0

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

The unionization rate of men(30.7%) was slightly higher than that of women (29.3%) in Nova Scotia in 1999. The number of men with union coverage was also higher than that of women by age groupings. However, women in all age groupings have seen strong growth of union coverage whereas only men 55 and over have experienced growth in union coverage since 1997.

Union Coverage by Age and Sex, Nova Scotia, 1997-1999
(Thousands of Employees)

		1997	1998	1999
15 +	Both sexes	98.3	104.9	104.6
	Males	53.9	56	54.5
	Females	44.5	48.9	50.1
15-24	Both sexes	3.9	4.3	4.1
	Males	2.2	2.0	2.2
	Females	1.7	2.3	2.0
25-54	Both sexes	86.7	92.1	91.2
	Males	46.9	48.8	47.1
	Females	39.8	43.3	44.1
55 +	Both sexes	7.8	8.5	9.4
	Males	4.8	5.2	5.3
	Females	3.0	3.3	4.1

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Employment Insurance Benefits

(May 2000 will be released July 20, 2000)

The number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries, the duration of payments and the total benefits paid are declining at the national level and in all provinces. In Nova Scotia, an average of 36,657 people received Employment Insurance (EI) benefits monthly in 1999, down 4.5% from 1998, while total benefit payments during this period decreased 1.8% to $555.2 million. Comparing the month of April 2000 to April 1999, the number of beneficiaries declined less than 1.1% to 41,780 and total benefits paid ($62,731 million) represented an increase of 19.9%.

Employment Insurance Benefits, Nova Scotia - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Apr. 1999	Apr. 2000
Benefits Paid ($'000)	796,187	588,369	565,497	555,166	52,330	62,731
Avg. Monthly Beneficiaries (#)	59,330	40,348	38,386	36,657	–	–

Note: A new production system and methodology were introduced starting with October 1999 data (use of geographic coding from the 1996 Census and the latest postal code file, inclusion of reimbursements to the EI program for more accurate data on total benefits paid, revised seasonal factors and separate publishing of transfers to provinces)

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735 and 5736)

Total Wages & Salaries

(May 2000 will be released August 3, 2000)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. The annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 5.3% in both Nova Scotia and Canada in 1999.

Growth in total wages in salaries between January and April 2000 over the same period in 1999 was 6.9% in Nova Scotia and 7.5% for Canada.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Jan.-Apr. 1999	Jan.-Apr. 2000
Total Wages & Salaries	8,984.3	9,478.2	10,122.7	10,659.2	3,373.5	3,605.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry

(May 2000 will be released July 27, 2000)

In 1999, the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. April 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $524.17, 0.3% over April 1999. Canada's $622.92 represented an increase of 2.4% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries*. In March 2000, the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,148.33 compared to $833.84 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $480.04 nationally and $394.64 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

	1994	1998	1999	Mar. 2000	Apr. 2000
Industrial Aggregate	$495.55	$510.35	$518.06	$522.20	$524.17p
Goods Producing	595.88	655.81	660.67	681.38	*
Forestry	491.94	480.27	472.15	522.78	*
Mining	845.03	849.19	870.31	833.84	*
Manufacturing	580.27	668.26	692.80	716.98	*
Construction	547.04	598.29	568.39	580.67	*
Service Producing	471.51	475.78	483.74	488.88	*
Transp , Communications	639.94	628.00	652.56	685.27	*
Trade	350.06	390.97	397.46	394.64	*
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	560.56	582.06	592.30	586.60	*
Community, Bus. & Personal	443.44	442.13	445.10	451.29	*
Public Administration	672.24	658.07	678.04	687.93	*

* *Detailed industry data for April 2000 will be available in late July.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Beginning with January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will be based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC).

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

(July 2000 will be released August 2, 2000)

The June 2000 help-wanted index remained unchanged at 169 in Canada. On a month over month basis, the index increased or remained the same in all provinces except Nova Scotia (-1.8%), British Columbia (-1.4%), Saskatchewan (-0.7%) and New Brunswick (-0.5%).

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

	June 2000	% Change June'99-June'00	% Change May.'00-June'00
Nova Scotia	168	1.2	-1.8
Canada	169	6.3	0.0

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons. The historical revision of the help-wanted index implemented with the March 2000 data released monthly revisions from January 1997.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrix 105)

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

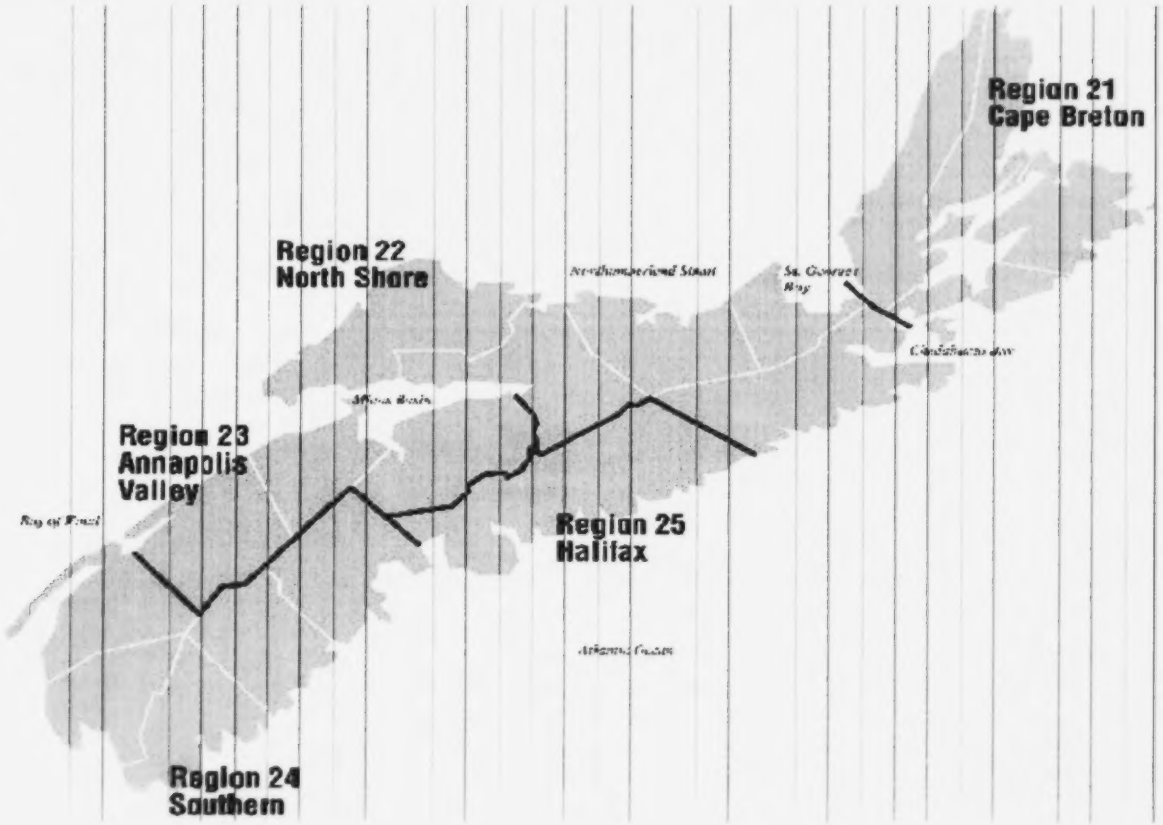
	1994*	1998*	1999*	1st Qtr 2000**	% Change 1st Qtr '99/ 1st Qtr'00
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	23,863	23,328	22,770	-1.8
Military	14,865	12,186	11,676	11,320	-5.1
Provincial General	13,963	11,450	11,857	11,518	1.0
Universities & Colleges	9,465	11,088	10,127	9,875	-3.6
Health & Social Services Institutions	27,467	26,038	26,753	26,127	-3.6
Local General Government	7,930	7,698	7,552	7,357	1.2
School Boards	16,765	17,014	17,036	18,680	0.5
Total Government	105,898	96,190	95,619	96,326	-1.5
Government Business Enterprises	8,594	8,196	7,062	6,754	-4.1
Total Public Sector	114,492	104,386	102,681	103,080	-1.7

* Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools in particular

Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports

Nova Scotia Labour Market
July 2000



NOVA SCOTIA

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Fiscal & Economic Policy
Statistics

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(August 2000 will be released September 8, 2000)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release July 2000

On a seasonally adjusted basis, July's employment in Nova Scotia had a slight decrease of 100 since June, but increased by 11,200 since June 1999. The size of the labour force rose by 3,700 and the number of unemployed persons increased by 3,800 in July 2000. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate increased 0.8% to 9.2%. Compared to July 1999 the rate of unemployment was unchanged. The participation rate was 61.8% in July; an increase of 0.5% over June 2000 and an increase of 1.1% since July 1999.

Although the seasonally adjusted numbers showed a decline in employment, the actual number of full-time jobs increased by 14,300 while the number of part-time jobs declined 8,000 for a net gain of 6,300. Youth unemployment (age 15-24) rose 4.0% to 16.6% after reaching its lowest level since August 1990 in June.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate in Cape Breton declined from 16.0% in June to 15.9% and is 1.0% higher compared to July 1999. On a month over month basis, the unemployment rate in the Annapolis Valley and Southern regions declined while the North Shore was unchanged. In the Halifax region, the unemployment rate increased by 0.1% to 6.1%. On seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 5.7%, the lowest east of Ottawa-Hull.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE - Employees Working Overtime

Beginning with the January 1997 reference period, the Labour Force Survey reports overtime data including number of employees working overtime, average overtime hours worked, and paid versus unpaid overtime. Statistics on overtime is available on an annual and monthly basis for Canada and the provinces.

Although data is only available for a short period of time, the statistics on overtime offer a number of interesting insights. Nationally, 2.1 million employees or 18.4% of all employees worked overtime in 1999. On average, employees working overtime in Canada worked 9.2 hours per week. As a percentage of total employees, the provinces with the highest number of employees working overtime in 1999 were Alberta (23.7%), Manitoba (19.6%), Saskatchewan (19.2%) and Ontario (19.2%). Of those working overtime, employees in Newfoundland averaged the highest number of hours per week (10.7 hours) followed by New Brunswick (9.6 hours) and Alberta (9.6 hours).

In Nova Scotia during 1999, 18.5% of employees worked overtime, slightly more than the national average. Nova Scotians' working overtime average 9.2 hours per week, the same as that for Canada.

Employees Working Overtime, Canada and the Provinces, 1997-1999

	Employees Working Overtime as a Percentage of Total Employees (%)			Average Number of Hours Worked (Hours)		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
Canada	18.4	18.2	18.4	9.3	9.2	9.2
Newfoundland	14.1	15.0	14.7	10.6	11.3	10.7
Prince Edward Island	13.3	11.6	11.4	9.0	8.9	8.5
Nova Scotia	18.6	19.0	18.5	9.3	9.0	9.2
New Brunswick	15.6	14.7	14.6	9.7	9.4	9.6
Québec	14.7	15.1	15.5	8.0	9.2	8.8
Ontario	9.3	19.0	19.2	9.4	9.3	9.5
Manitoba	21.1	20.6	19.6	8.7	8.6	8.5
Saskatchewan	19.4	18.3	19.2	9.9	9.2	9.4
Alberta	23.5	22.6	23.7	10.0	9.4	9.6
British Columbia	18.7	18.1	18.1	8.5	8.4	8.4

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

In 1999 almost 60 thousand employees in Nova Scotia worked overtime. More than half, 32,100 or 53.7% worked unpaid overtime. Over 26,000 employees or 43.7% were paid for overtime work while the remaining 2.5% worked a combination of paid and unpaid time. Those working only unpaid overtime worked an average of 9.2 hours per week while those working only paid overtime worked an average of 9.0 hours per week. Those working a combination of paid and unpaid overtime averaged 13.2 hours of overtime per week.

Number of Employees Working Overtime and Average Overtime Hours, Nova Scotia, 1997-1999

	1997	1998	1999
All employees at work	301.6	313.1	322.5
Employees working overtime	56.0	59.6	59.7
Employees working unpaid overtime	30.9	34.4	32.1
Employees working paid overtime	23.2	23.6	26.1
Employees working both unpaid and paid overtime	1.8	1.5	1.5
Average overtime hours(all employees)	1.7	1.7	1.7
Average overtime hours(overtime workers)	9.3	9.0	9.2
Average overtime hours of employees working unpaid overtime only	9.2	8.6	9.2
Average overtime hours of employees working paid overtime only	9.2	9.4	9.0
Average overtime hours of employees working both unpaid and paid overtime only	13.8	13.7	13.2

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, 1999

In 1999 employees in the goods producing sector were more likely to work overtime than those in the service sector. On average, goods producing sector employees worked 0.4 hours per week longer than employees in the service sector. Within the goods sector, the largest number of employees working over time were in the utilities sector (26.3%) while those in the forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas sectors worked the most overtime hours, 11.9 hours on average.

Within the service sector, educational services employees were most likely to work overtime (30.2%) and worked the most hours (10.6 hours). Employees in the accommodation and food services industries were least likely to work overtime (9.2%) and worked an average of 7.7 hours per week of overtime.

Overtime by Industry, Nova Scotia, 1997-1999

	Employees Working Overtime as Percentage of Total Employees			Average Hours Worked		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
Total	18.6	19.0	18.5	9.3	9.0	9.2
Goods-Producing Sector	18.7	18.7	19.0	9.7	9.6	9.5
Agriculture	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	15.5	12.9	13.3	11.1	12.1	11.9
Utilities	28.6	41.2	26.3	10.0	10.4	7.8
Construction	15.5	14.7	12.6	11.3	9.9	10.7
Manufacturing	21.1	21.3	23.3	9.1	8.9	9.1
Services-Producing Sector	18.5	19.1	18.4	9.2	8.9	9.1
Trade	15.9	15.9	15.6	8.7	8.3	8.8
Transportation and Warehousing	18.9	20.3	22.2	9.4	9.8	9.0
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	20.9	23.6	19.5	6.9	8.2	7.2
Professional, Scientific and Technical	26.5	31.0	25.9	10.6	9.7	9.3
Management of Companies and	11.1	11.4	13.6	8.5	10.1	8.0
Educational Services	30.1	34.7	30.2	10.9	10.3	10.6
Health Care and Social Assistance	15.1	15.4	15.4	7.3	7.5	8.1
Information, Culture and Recreation	20.3	19.0	21.0	8.8	8.0	10.1
Accommodation and Food Services	11.5	9.0	9.2	9.2	8.1	7.7
Other Services	15.1	15.0	15.2	12.2	9.4	9.9
Public Administration	22.8	21.9	23.3	10.0	8.8	9.8

Source: Statistics Canada, CD-ROM "1F0004XCB, 1999

Through the 1997-1999 period, males were more likely to work overtime and to work longer overtime hours than females. In 1999, 58.1% of those working overtime were male; an increase of 1.0% over 1997. Males working overtime averaged 10.1 hours per week in 1999; a slight decline from 10.3 hours in 1997. Females working overtime averaged 8.0 hours per week in 1999; a slight decline from 8.1 hours in 1997.

Overtime by Gender, Nova Scotia, 1997-1999

		1997	1998	1999
Employees working overtime	Both sexes	56.0	59.6	59.7
	Males	32.0	34.8	34.7
	Females	24.0	24.7	24.9
Average overtime hours	Both sexes	9.3	9.0	9.2
	Males	10.3	10.0	10.1
	Females	8.1	7.7	8.0

Source: Statistics Canada. CD-ROM 71F0004XCB. 1999

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries

(June 2000 will be released August 31, 2000)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. The annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 5.3% in both Nova Scotia and Canada in 1999.

Growth in total wages in salaries between January and May 2000 over the same period in 1999 was 6.4% in Nova Scotia and 7.3% for Canada.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Jan.-May 1999	Jan.-May 2000
Total Wages & Salaries	8,984.	9,478.	10,12	10,65	4,264.6	4,536.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry

(June 2000 will be released August 24, 2000)

In 1999 the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. May 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $525.11, an increase of 1.4% over May 1999. Canada's $624.67 represented an increase of 2.7% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries*. In March 2000 the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,148.33 compared to $833.84 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $480.04 nationally and $394.64 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

Industrial Aggregate	1994	1998	1999	Apr. 2000	May. 2000
	$495.55	$510.35	$518.06	$522.61	$525.11p
Goods Producing	595.88	655.81	660.67	676.89	*
Forestry	491.94	480.27	472.15	528.54	*
Mining	845.03	849.19	870.31	843.60	*
Manufacturing	580.27	668.26	692.80	713.12	*
Construction	547.04	598.29	568.39	571.14	*
Service Producing	471.51	475.78	483.74	489.62	*
Transp., Communications	639.94	628.00	652.56	687.12	*
Trade	350.06	390.97	397.46	391.50	*
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	560.56	582.06	592.30	588.78	*
Community, Bus. & Personal	443.44	442.13	445.10	455.20	*
Public Administration	672.24	658.07	678.04	689.44	*

* *Detailed industry data for May 2000 will be available in late August.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Beginning with January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will be based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC).

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

(August 2000 will be released September 6, 2000)

The July 2000 help-wanted index was 171 in Canada; an increase of 1.2% over June. On a month over month basis, the index increased or remained the same in all provinces except Manitoba (-0.6%), Nova Scotia (-0.6%), and Prince Edward Island (-0.4%).

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

	July 2000	% Change July'99-July'00	% Change June'00-July'00
Nova Scotia	167	0.0	-0.6
Canada	171	6.9	1.2

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons. The historical revision of the help-wanted index implemented with the March 2000 data released monthly revisions from January 199

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM, matrix 1051)

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

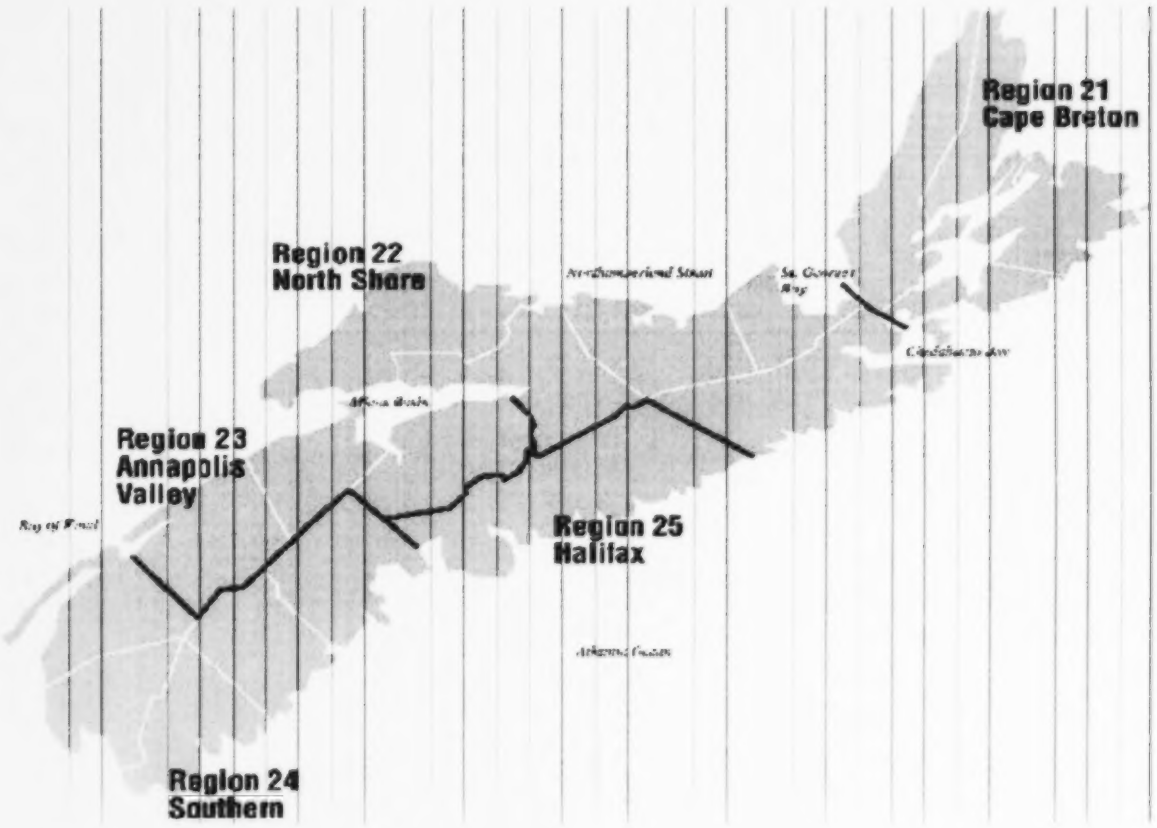
	1994*	1998*	1999*	1st Qtr 2000**	% Change 1st Qtr '99/ 1st Qtr'00
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	23,863	23,328	22,770	-1.8
Military	14,865	12,186	11,676	11,320	-5.1
Provincial General	13,963	11,450	11,857	11,518	1.0
Universities & Colleges	9,465	11,088	10,127	9,875	-3.6
Health & Social Services Institutions	27,467	26,038	26,753	26,127	-3.6
Local General Government	7,930	7,698	7,552	7,357	1.2
School Boards	16,765	17,014	17,036	18,680	0.5
Total Government	105,898	96,190	95,619	96,326	-1.5
Government Business Enterprises	8,594	8,196	7,062	6,754	-4.1
Total Public Sector	114,492	104,386	102,681	103,080	-1.7

* Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools in particular

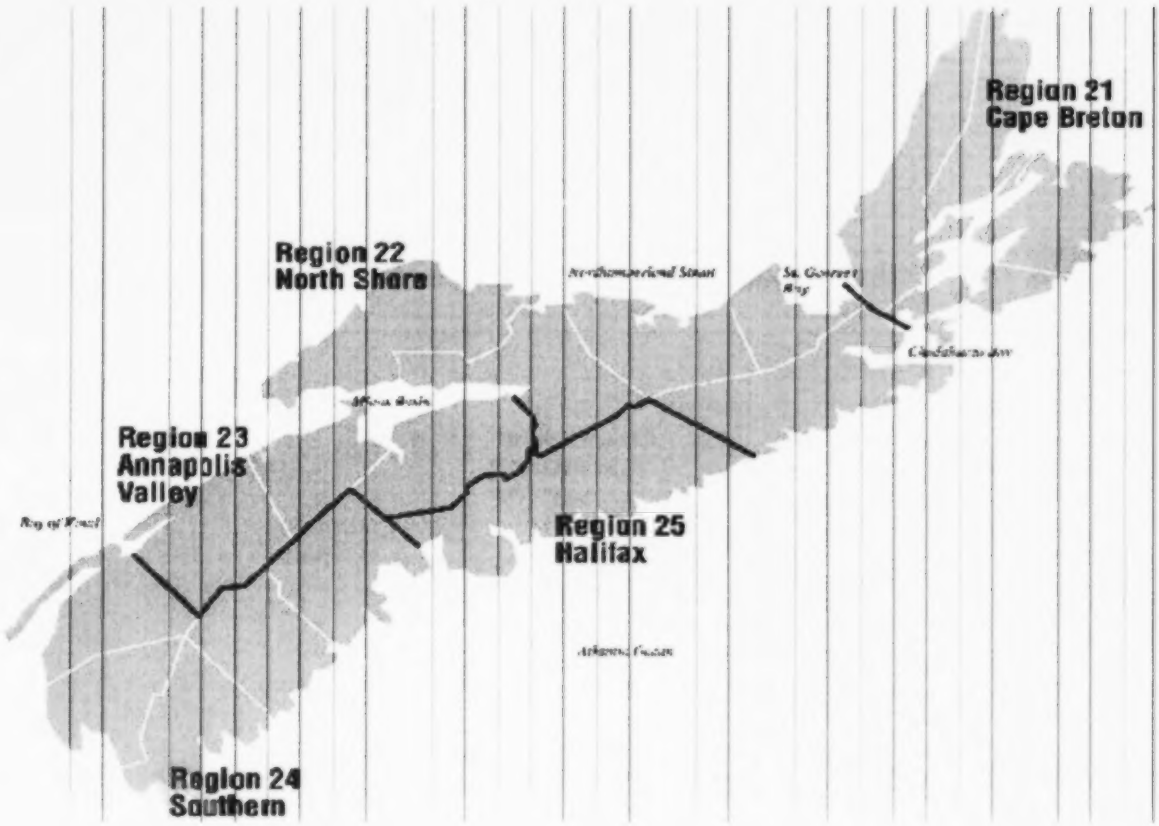
Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports

Nova Scotia Labour Market
August 2000



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance

Nova Scotia Labour Market
September 2000



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance

Key Employment Indicators October 6, 2000

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(October 2000 will be released November 3, 2000)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release September 2000

On a seasonally adjusted basis, September's employment in Nova Scotia increased 0.3% since August, and increased by 1.8% since September 1999. The size of the labour force increased 0.4% and the number of unemployed persons increased by 1.1% in September 2000. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate increased 0.1 percentage points to 9.6%. Compared to September 1999, the rate of unemployment decreased from 9.8% to 9.6%. The participation rate was 61.6% in September; an increase of 0.2 percentage points over August 2000 and an increase of 0.3 percentage points since September 1999.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate in Southern, Cape Breton and the North Shore regions increased by 0.9, 0.8 and 0.3 percentage points respectively. In the Annapolis Valley region, the unemployment rate declined by 0.3 percentage points. The unemployment rate was unchanged in the Halifax region. On seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.1%, the lowest east of Ottawa-Hull.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE -Labour Force Characteristics of Summer Students (Ages 15-24)

Statistics Canada reports that full-time students seeking employment over the summer period of May - August fared considerably better in 2000 as compared to the same period in 1999. In summer 2000, 45,300 students in Nova Scotia were employed; an increase of 4.6% over the previous year. Slightly more than half (52%) were employed on a full-time basis. The number of unemployed students dropped 17.0% to 8,600 and the unemployment rate declined from 19.8% in 1999 to 15.9%.

In Canada, student employment growth in summer 2000 was more moderate at 1.6%. While full-time employment growth increased 2.5%, only 45.6% of students in Canada were employed on a full-time basis. The number of unemployed students decreased 9.8% to 229,900 while the unemployment rate declined from 16.4% in 1999 to 14.7%.

Labour Force Characteristics, Student Employment, Nova Scotia and Canada, 1999-2000

	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Summer		% Change	Summer		% Change
	1999	2000	1999-2000	1999	2000	1999-2000
Population	82.8	83.6	1.0	2,590.8	2550.1	-1.6
Labour force	53.6	53.9	0.5	1,579.0	1575.4	-0.2
Employment	43.3	45.3	4.6	1,324.1	1345.5	1.6
Full-time employment	22.4	23.5	4.7	598.3	613.2	2.5
Part-time employment	21.0	21.8	4.1	725.8	732.3	0.9
Unemployment	10.3	8.6	-17.0	254.8	229.9	-9.8
Not in labour force	29.2	29.8	1.9	1,011.8	974.7	-3.7
Unemployment rate	19.8	15.9	-3.9*	16.4	14.7	-1.7*
Participation rate	64.6	64.4	-0.2*	60.8	61.7	0.9*
Employment rate	52.2	54.1	1.9*	50.9	52.7	1.8*

* Represents difference in levels and not percentage change.

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 71F0004XCB

In comparing the summer of 1990 to 2000, the labour force of summer students increased by 9.5% in Nova Scotia while employment only grew by 5.5%. The distribution of full-time and part-time employment remained the same at 52% and 48% over the period. There was 2,300 more unemployed students in 2000 than in 1990; an increase of 36.3%. The unemployment rate was 2.8% higher in 2000 than during 1990. Canadian student participation and employment rates both registered significant declines, 6.0% and 7.4% respectively, in 2000 as compared to 1990.

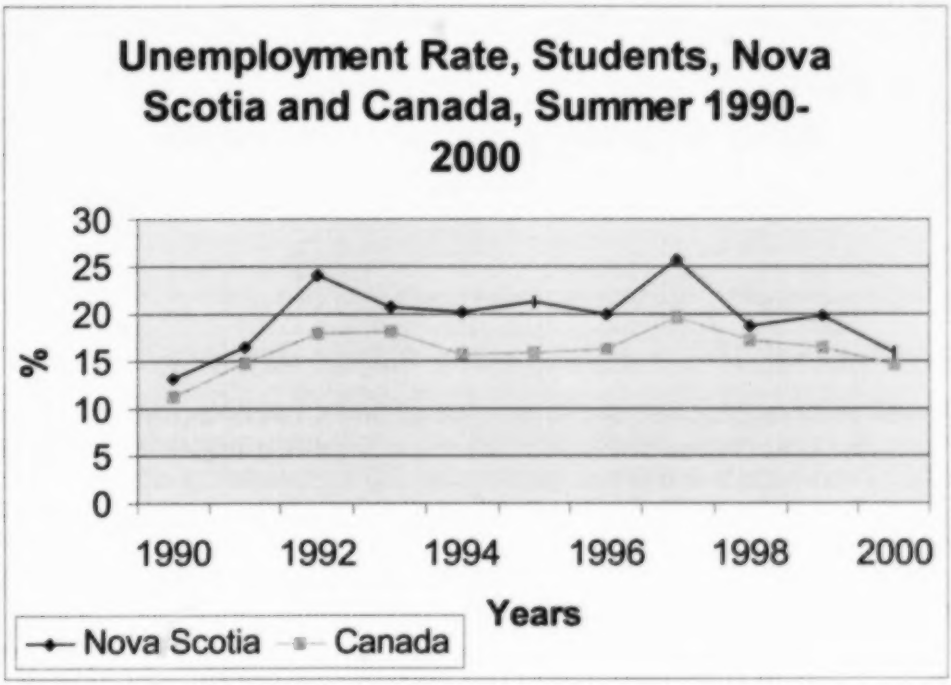
Labour Force Characteristics, Student Employment, Nova Scotia and Canada, 1990-2000

	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Summer		% Change	Summer		% Change
	1990	2000	1990-2000	1990	2000	1990-2000
Population	77.5	83.6	8.0	2,123.8	2550.1	20.1
Labour force	49.2	53.9	9.5	1,440.9	1575.4	9.3
Employment	42.9	45.3	5.5	1,279.8	1345.5	5.1
Full-time employment	22.4	23.5	4.6	656.8	613.2	-6.6
Part-time employment	20.5	21.8	6.6	623.0	732.3	17.6
Unemployment	6.3	8.6	36.3	161.1	229.9	42.7
Not in labour force	28.3	29.8	5.3	682.9	974.7	42.7
Unemployment rate	13.1	15.9	2.8*	11.3	14.7	3.4*
Participation rate	63.5	64.4	0.9*	67.7	61.7	-6.0*
Employment rate	55.4	54.1	-1.3*	60.1	52.7	-7.4*

* Represents difference in levels and not percentage change.

Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 71F0004XCB

As shown in the graphic below, over the 1990-2000 period, student unemployment rates have been consistently higher in Nova Scotia than in Canada. The student unemployment rate peaked in 1997 in both Nova Scotia and Canada at 25.8% and 19.7% respectively. The difference between Nova Scotian and Canadian student unemployment rates reached 6.1% in both 1992 and 1997. The lowest rate of student unemployment was reached in 1990 for both Nova Scotia and Canada at 13.1% and 11.3% respectively. The spread between Nova Scotian and Canadian unemployment rates was lowest in 2000 at 1.2%.



Source: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 71F0004XCB

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries

(August and September 2000 will be released November 30, 2000)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. The annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 5.3% in both Nova Scotia and Canada in 1999.

Growth in total wages in salaries between January and July 2000 over the same period in 1999 was 5.9% in Nova Scotia and 7.2% for Canada.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Jan.-July 1999	Jan.-July 2000
Total Wages & Salaries	8,984.0	9,478.2	10,122.7	10,659.2	6,119.9	6481.4

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry

(August 2000 will be released October 26, 2000)

In 1999 the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. July 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $532.05, an increase of 0.5% over July 1999. Canada's $629.25 represented an increase of 2.7% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries. In June 2000 the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,158.53 compared to $836.74 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $483.64 nationally and $407.22 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

	1994	1998	1999	June 2000	July 2000**
Industrial Aggregate	$495.55	$510.35	$518.06	$533.41	$532.05p
Goods Producing	595.88	655.81	660.67	673.64	
Forestry	491.94	480.27	472.15	516.74	
Mining	845.03	849.19	870.31	836.74	
Manufacturing	580.27	668.26	692.80	719.56	
Construction	547.04	598.29	568.39	577.89	
Service Producing	471.51	475.78	483.74	499.09	
Transp., Communications	639.94	628.00	652.56	684.57	
Trade	350.06	390.97	397.46	407.22	
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	560.56	582.06	592.30	633.88	
Community, Bus. & Personal	443.44	442.13	445.10	456.94	
Public Administration	672.24	658.07	678.04	693.34	

** *Data by sector will be available when the monthly publication is released.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Beginning with January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will be based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC).

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted and smoothed-

(October 2000 will be released November 1, 2000)

The September 2000 help-wanted index was 174 in Canada; an increase of 2.4% over August, the largest increase in more than two years. On a month over month basis, the index increased or remained the same in all provinces except Saskatchewan (-0.7%) and Newfoundland (-0.5%).

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

	Sept. 2000	% Change Sept.'99-Sept.'00	% Change August'00-Sept.'00
Nova Scotia	165	-1.8	1.2
Canada	174	7.4	2.4

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons. The historical revision of the help-wanted index implemented with the March 2000 data released monthly revisions from January 199".

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrix 105)

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

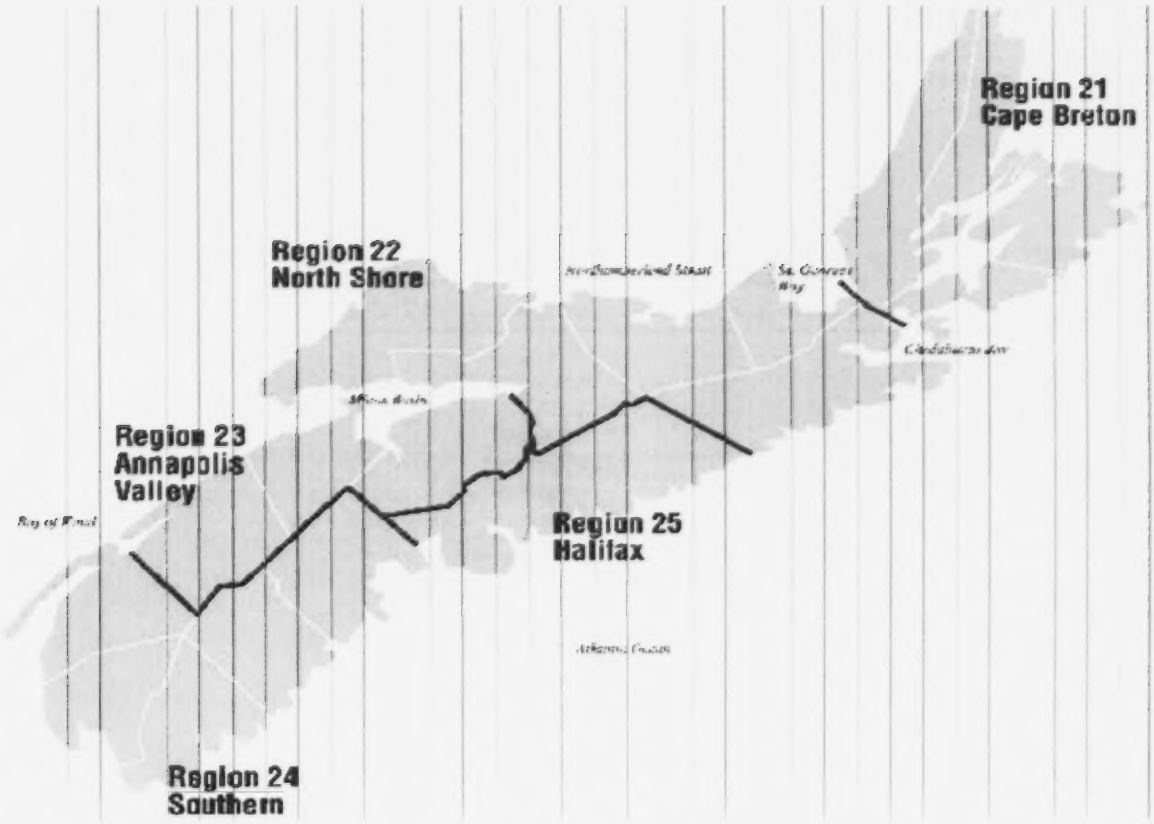
	1994*	1998*	1999*	2nd Qtr 2000**	% Change 2nd Qtr '99/ 2nd Qtr'00
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	23,863	23,328	22,947	-2.2
Military	14,865	12,186	11,676	11,227	-5.1
Provincial General	13,963	11,450	11,857	11,490	-2.8
Universities & Colleges	9,465	11,088	9,093	9,047	-1.8
Health & Social Services Inst itution	27,467	26,038	26,753	26,332	-3.5
Local General Government	7,930	7,698	7,552	7,109	-6.4
School Boards	16,765	17,014	17,036	18,317	0.6
Total Government	105,898	96,190	95,619	96,242	-2.4
Government Business Enterprises	8,594	8,196	7,062	6,418	-10.5
Total Public Sector	114,492	104,386	102,681	101,660	-3.0

* Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools in particular

Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports

Nova Scotia Labour Market
October 2000



NOVA SCOTIA

Key Employment Indicators November 3, 2000

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(November 2000 will be released December 1, 2000)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release October 2000

On a seasonally adjusted basis, October's employment in Nova Scotia increased 0.2% since September, and increased by 2.0 % since October 1999. The size of the labour force decreased 0.04 % and the number of unemployed persons decreased by 2.3% in October 2000. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.3 percentage points. Compared to October 1999, the rate of unemployment decreased from 9.4% to 9.3%. The participation rate was 61.5% in October; a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from September 2000 and an increase of 0.6 percentage points since October 1999.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate in Cape Breton, North Shore and Halifax regions declined by 0.6, 0.3 and 0.2 percentage points respectively. In both the Annapolis Valley and the Southern regions, the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage points. On seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 5.8%, the lowest east of Oshawa.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE - New Employment Insurance (EI) Regional Boundaries

Regulations under the Employment Insurance require a review of the boundaries at least every five years. Therefore, effective July 9, 2000 the Department of Human Resources Development Canada implemented new Employment Insurance (EI) regional boundaries. These new boundaries are intended to reflect labour market conditions and designed to ensure that people in areas of high unemployment get the help they need from the Employment Insurance program. Ten of the 13 provincial and territorial jurisdictions have been affected by the resulting changes to EI regional boundaries. Within Nova Scotia, the number of EI regions have been reduced from five to three. The Eastern Region was expanded slightly and the other three rural regions were merged into a new Western Nova Scotia Region. Pictou, which would have been in the Eastern Region, has become part of the Western Region of the province. Halifax, as the province's urban EI region remained unchanged.

Under the EI program, economic regions are established to determine EI benefit entitlements and duration of benefits. Benefit rates and the period of time that benefits can be collected are determined by the unemployment rate of the EI region in which an individual lives. The unemployment rates for each EI region are calculated on a monthly basis by Statistics Canada.

EI Program Characteristics for the Period of October 8, 2000 - November 4, 2000*

Nova Scotia	EI Economic Region	Unemployment Rate used by Employment Insurance Program	Variable Entrance Requirement (Hours)	Entitlement Minimum (Weeks)	Entitlement Maximum (Weeks)
04	Eastern Nova Scotia	18.7	420	32	45
05	Western Nova Scotia	9.8	560	20	44
06	Halifax	6.2	665	15	38

* For geographic descriptions and maps for the EI regions, see the Human Resources Development Canada web site: <http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/ei/common/home.shtml.>

Source: Human Resources Development Canada, Employment Insurance Program.

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries

(August and September 2000 will be released November 30, 2000)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. The annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 5.3% in both Nova Scotia and Canada in 1999.

Growth in total wages in salaries between January and July 2000 over the same period in 1999 was 5.9% in Nova Scotia and 7.2% for Canada.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Jan.-July 1999	Jan.-July 2000
Total Wages & Salaries	8984.0	9478.2	10122.7	10659.2	6119.9	6481.4

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry

(September 2000 will be released November 29, 2000)

In 1999 the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. August 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $534.25, an increase of 3.0% over August 1999. Canada's $630.38 represented an increase of 3.1% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries. In July 2000 the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,160.91 compared to $843.70 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $479.30 nationally and $398.07 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

	1994	1998	1999	July 2000	August 2000**
Industrial Aggregate $495.55	$510.35	$518.06	$532.89	$534.25p	
Goods Producing	595.88	655.81	660.67	671.62	
Forestry	491.94	480.27	472.15	518.18	
Mining	845.03	849.19	870.31	843.70	
Manufacturing	580.27	668.26	692.80	719.44	
Construction	547.04	598.29	568.39	570.17	
Service Producing	471.51	475.78	483.74	496.26	
Transp., Communications	639.94	628.00	652.56	682.98	
Trade	350.06	390.97	397.46	398.07	
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	560.56	582.06	592.30	612.50	
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Public Administration	672.24	658.07	678.04	692.29	

** *Data by sector will be available when the monthly publication is released.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Beginning with January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will be based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC).

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted and smoothed-

(November 2000 will be released December 1, 2000)

The October 2000 help-wanted index was 178 in Canada; an increase of 2.3% over September, led by British Columbia (+4.1%), Quebec (+2.4%) and Manitoba (+2.4%). In all other provinces, the index either increased or remained the same, except in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

	Oct. 2000	% Change Oct.'99-Oct.'00	% Change Sept. '00-Oct.'00
Nova Scotia	178	8.5	2.3
Canada	165	-1.8	0.0

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons. The historical revision of the help-wanted index implemented with the March 2000 data released monthly revisions from January 1997.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrix 105)

Employment Insurance

(September 2000 will be released November 22, 2000)

There were 26, 315 beneficiaries (unadjusted for seasonal trends) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in August 2000, an increase of 5.2% over August 1999. Nationwide there were 447,898 beneficiaries. Led by Alberta (-19.1%), 10 of the 13 provinces and territories recorded year-over-year decreases.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits
-unadjusted-

	August 2000p	% Change August 1999 to August 2000
Canada	447,898	-6.1
Newfoundland	27,933	-11.5
Prince Edward Island	5,835	-3.7
Nova Scotia	26,315	5.2
New Brunswick	24,848	-0.5
Quebec	153,213	-5.9
Ontario	104,869	-4.1
Manitoba	14,228	2.0
Saskatchewan	11,138	0.2
Alberta	26,997	-19.1
British Columbia	50,850	-11.0
Yukon	565	-12.1
Northwest Territories	613	-12.3
Nunavut	433	-15.2

Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada have discovered an underestimation in the calculation of the number of beneficiaries of Employment Insurance that affects the beneficiaries file from January 1997 to April 2000. Consequently, the departments have agreed to correct the underestimation and conduct an historical revision of the data series back to January 1997. In the meantime, preliminary data for the number of beneficiaries, aggregated at the provincial level for July and August 2000 were tabulated by Human Resources Development Canada and provided to Statistics Canada. Users are cautioned against making any analytical comparison between this data and any monthly or historical data previously released.

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

	1994*	1998*	1999*	2nd Qtr 2000**	% Change 2nd Qtr '99/ 2nd Qtr'00
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	23,863	23,328	22,947	-2.2
Military	14,865	12,186	11,676	11,227	-5.1
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School Boards	16,765	17,014	17,036	18,317	0.6
Total Government	105,898	96,190	95,619	96,242	-2.4
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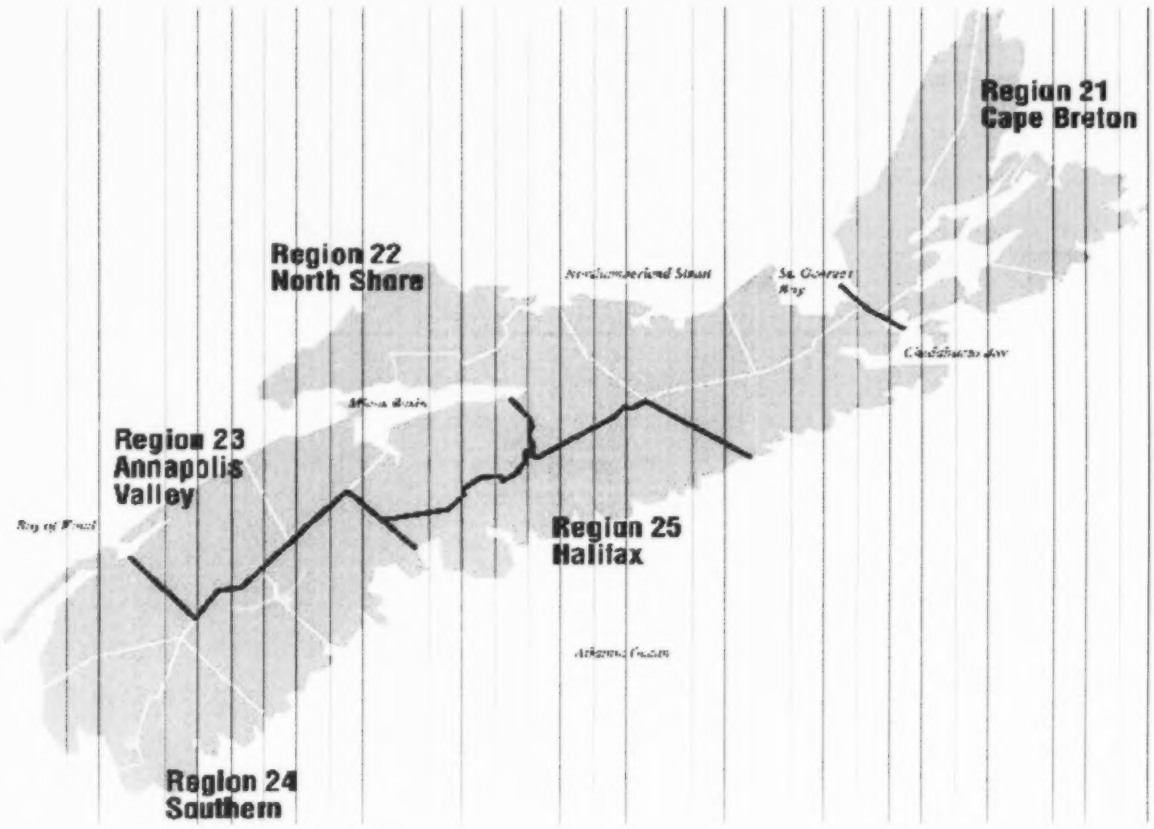
* Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools in particular

Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports

Nova Scotia Labour Market
November 2000



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Fiscal & Economic Policy
Statistics

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(December 2000 will be released January 5, 2001)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release November 2000

On a seasonally adjusted basis, November's employment in Nova Scotia increased 0.4 % since October, and increased by 2.1 % since November 1999. The size of the labour force increased 0.6 % and the number of unemployed persons increased by 1.9 % in November 2000. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate increased 0.2 percentage points. Compared to November 1999, the rate of unemployment was unchanged at 9.5 % . The participation rate was 61.8 % in November; an increase of 0.3 percentage points from October 2000 and an increase of 0.6 percentage points since November 1999.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate in Cape Breton and Halifax regions declined by 1.3 and 0.7 percentage points respectively compared to November 1999. In the North Shore, Southern region and Annapolis Valley, the unemployment rate increased by 1.1, 1.0 and 0.6 percentage points. On seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 5.9%, the lowest east of Ottawa-Hull..

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE - 2001 Release Dates for Employment Related Data

Refer to Statistics Canada's web site for 20001 release dates for other selected economic indicators: http://www.statcan.ca/english/Release/2001.htm

Labour Force Survey

Data for:	*Release date:*
December 2000	January 5, 2001
January 2001	February 9, 2001
February 2001	March 9, 2001
March 2001	April 6, 2001
April 2001	May 11, 2001
May 2001	June 8, 2001
June 2001	July 6, 2001
July 2001	August 10, 2001
August 2001	September 7, 2001
September 2001	October 5, 2001
October 2001	November 2, 2001
November 2001	December 7, 2001
December 2001	January 11, 2002
January 2002	February 8, 2002

Employment, earnings and hours

Data for:	*Release date:*
November 2000	January 30, 2001
December 2000	February 27, 2001
January 2001	March 29, 2001
February 2001	April 27, 2001
March 2001	May 30, 2001
April 2001	June 27, 2001
May 2001	July 26, 2001
June 2001	August 28, 2001
July 2001	September 26, 2001
August 2001	October 29, 2001
September 2001	November 28, 2001
October 2001	December 21, 2001

November 2001	January 28, 2002
December 2001	February 27, 2002

Help-wanted Index

Data for:	*Release date:*
January 2001	February 7, 2001
February 2001	March 7, 2001
March 2001	April 5, 2001
April 2001	May 9, 2001
May 2001	June 7, 2001
June 2001	July 5, 2001
July 2001	August 8, 2001
August 2001	September 6, 2001
September 2001	October 4, 2001
October 2001	November 1, 2001
November 2001	December 6, 2001
December 2001	January 10, 2002
January 2002	February 6, 2002

Employment Insurance

Data for:	*Release date:*
November 2000	January 24, 2001
December 2000	February 21, 2001
January 2001	March 22, 2001
February 2001	April 26, 2001
March 2001	May 24, 2001
April 2001	June 21, 2001
May 2001	July 26, 2001
June 2001	August 23, 2001
July 2001	September 20, 2001
August 2001	October 25, 2001
September2001	November 22, 2001
October 2001	December 20, 2001
November 2001	January 24, 2002
December 2001	February 21, 2002

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries

(October 2000 will be released January 5, 2001)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. The annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 6.5% in Nova Scotia and at 5.3% in Canada in1999.

Growth in total wages in salaries between January and September 2000 over the same period in 1999 was 6.3% in Nova Scotia and 7.3% for Canada.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Jan.-Sept. 1999	Jan.-Sept. 2000
Total Wages & Salaries	8984	9478.2	10122.7	10777.8	8026.1	8533.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry

(October 2000 will be released December 21, 2000)

In 1999 the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. September 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $528.98, an increase of 2.6% over September 1999. Canada's $628.97 represented an increase of 2.9% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries. In August 2000 the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,152.38 compared to $854.98 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $480.21 nationally and $410.40 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

	1994	1998	1999	Aug. 2000	Sept 2000**
Industrial Aggregate	$495.55	$510.35	$518.06	$531.29	$528.98p
Goods Producing	595.88	655.81	660.67	673.66	
Forestry	491.94	480.27	472.15	500.45	
Mining	845.03	849.19	870.31	854.98	
Manufacturing	580.27	668.26	692.80	725.61	
Construction	547.04	598.29	568.39	573.97	
Service Producing	471.51	475.78	483.74	498.60	
Transp., Communications	639.94	628.00	652.56	683.08	
Trade	350.06	390.97	397.46	410.40	
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	560.56	582.06	592.30	603.84	
Community, Bus. & Personal	443.44	442.13	445.10	455.08	
Public Administration	672.24	658.07	678.04	693.81	

** *Data by sector will be available when the monthly publication is released.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Beginning with January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will be based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC).

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100
-seasonally adjusted and smoothed-

(December 2000 will be released January 5, 2000)

The November 2000 help-wanted index was 181 in Canada; an increase of 1.7% over October, led by

Alberta (+3.5%), Ontario (+2.6%), Prince Edward Island (+2.6), and New Brunswick (+2.6%). In all other provinces, the index either increased or remained the same, except in Quebec which declined 0.6%.

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

		% Change	% Change
	Nov. 2000	Nov.'99-Nov.'00	Oct. '00-Nov.'00
Nova Scotia	165	-1.8	0.0
Canada	181	9.0	1.7

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons. The historical revision of the help-wanted index implemented with the March 2000 data released monthly revisions from January 1997.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrix 105)

Employment Insurance

(October 2000 will be released December 20, 2000)

There were 20,800 beneficiaries (unadjusted for seasonal trends) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in September 2000, an decrease of 0.8% from September 1999. Nationwide there were 335,420 beneficiaries, a decrease of 9.5% from September 1999. In all provinces and territories, the number of regular Employment Insurance benefit recipients decreased o remained the same from September 1999; Nunavut was the only exception.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

-unadjusted-

	September 2000p	% Change September 1999 to September 2000
Canada	335,420	-9.5
Newfoundland	24,030	-8.8
Prince Edward Island	4,890	-7.6
Nova Scotia	20,800	-0.8
New Brunswick	19,730	-8.3
Quebec	121,490	-8.9
Ontario	70,360	-7.5
Manitoba	7,870	-10.1
Saskatchewan	6,930	-4.7
Alberta	19,500	-23.0
British Columbia	38,250	-13.2
Yukon	520	-17.5
Northwest Territories	640	0.0
Nunavut	360	20.0

Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada have discovered an underestimation in the calculation of the number of beneficiaries of Employment Insurance that affects the beneficiaries file from January 1997 to April 2000. Consequently, the departments have agreed to correct the underestimation and conduct an historical revision of the data series back to January 1997. In the meantime, preliminary

data for the number of beneficiaries, aggregated at the provincial level for July and August 2000 were tabulated by Human Resources Development Canada and provided to Statistics Canada. Users are cautioned against making any analytical comparison between this data and any monthly or historical data previously released.

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

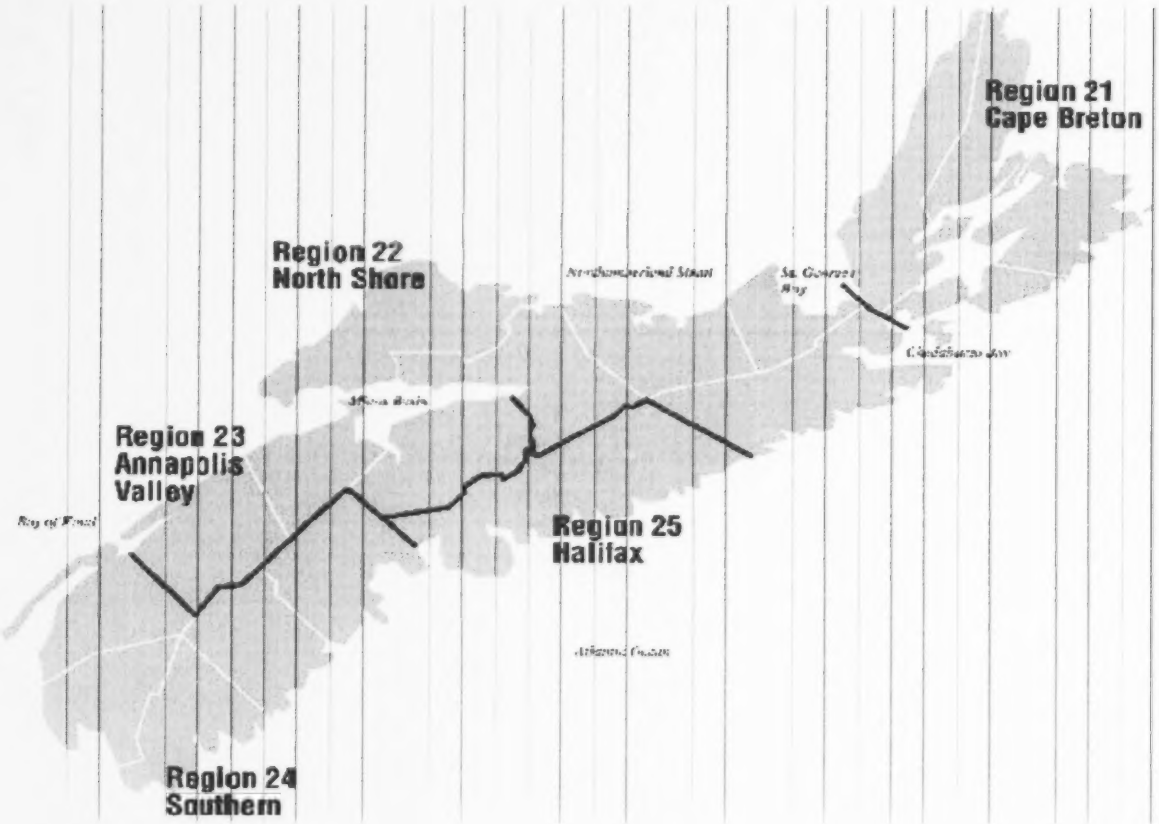
	1994*	1998*	1999*	2nd Qtr 2000**	% Change 2nd Qtr '99/ 2nd Qtr'00
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	23,863	23,328	22,947	-2.2
Military	14,865	12,186	11,676	11,227	-5.1
Provincial General	13,963	11,450	11,857	11,490	-2.8
Universities & Colleges	9,465	10,127	9,093	9,047	-1.8
Health & Social Services Institution	27,467	26,038	26,753	26,332	-3.5
Local General Government	7,930	7,698	7,552	7,109	-6.4
School Boards	16,765	17,014	17,036	18,317	0.6
Total Government	**105,898**	**96,190**	**95,619**	**96,242**	**-2.4**
Government Business Enterprises	**8,594**	**8,196**	**7,062**	**6,418**	**-10.5**
Total Public Sector	**114,492**	**104,386**	**102,681**	**101,660**	-3.0

* Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools in particular

Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports

Nova Scotia Labour Market
December 2000



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Fiscal & Economic Policy
Statistics

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(January 2001 will be released February 9, 2001)

1. HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release December 2000

On a seasonally adjusted basis, December's employment in Nova Scotia increased 1.3% since November, and increased by 2.8 % since December 1999. The size of the labour force increased 0.8 % and the number of unemployed persons decreased by 4.8% in December 2000. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.6 percentage points. Compared to December 1999 the rate of unemployment decreased from 9.6% to 8.9%. The participation rate was 62.3% in December; an increase of 0.5 percentage points from November 2000 and an increase 0.7 of percentage points since December 1999.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate in Cape Breton and Halifax regions declined by 1.2 and 0.7 percentage points respectively compared to December 1999. In the North Shore and Southern region, the unemployment rate increased by 1.0 and 0.6 percentage points. The unemployment rate in the Annapolis Valley region was unchanged from December 1999. On seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.1 %, the lowest east of Ottawa-Hull.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

2. FEATURE -

Labour Force Data - Economic Regions of Nova Scotia

An Economic Region is a geographical unit generally composed of several Census Divisions within a province. In the case of Prince Edward Island, the province constitutes one Economic Region. The composition of Economic Regions is determined through a consultative process with the provinces. The boundaries in current use are based on 1991 Census geography and were implemented in January 1995. With the exception of British Columbia, the boundaries of these regions were unchanged or only slightly modified from previous definitions, and it was possible to revise associated data back to 1987 to provide historical continuity. While designed to provide highly reliable data at the national and provincial levels, key labour market estimates are also available for Economic Regions. A brief description of the **economic regions in current use in Nova Scotia** follows:

Economic Region	Includes Census Divisions
210: Cape Breton	15 Inverness County
	16 Richmond County
	17 Cape Breton County
	18 Victoria County

Economic Region contd.	**Includes Census Divisions**
220: North Shore	10 Colchester County
	11 Cumberland County
	12 Pictou County
	13 Guysborough County
	14 Antigonish County
230: Annapolis Valley	05 Annapolis County
	07 Kings County
	08 Hants County
240: Southern	01 Shelburne County
	02 Yarmouth County
	03 Digby County
	04 Queens County
	06 Lunenburg County
250: Halifax	09 Halifax County

Employment by industry is one aspect of annual data recorded at the economic region level. The following table depicts data for 1989 and 1999. As indicated, there was an overall 6.9% increase in the number of people employed in Nova Scotia during this period. Among the regions of the province this growth ranged from Halifax, 10.5%; Annapolis Valley, 9.5%; North Shore, 5.6%; Southern, 4.2%, while Cape Breton Region registered a decline of 1.7%. Employment in the province's goods producing sector decreased 10.3%. The only region that reported an employment increase in the goods producing sector was the Annapolis Valley where the increase in agriculture and manufacturing industries only slightly outbalanced the decline in forestry/fishing/mining/oil & gas and construction industries. The strong increase in employment within the services producing sectors (13.2% in Nova Scotia) was evident in all regions of the province–Southern, 18.5%; Halifax, 14.9%; Annapolis Valley, 13.4%; North Shore, 9.0% and Cape Breton, 6.7%. Public administration, the only overall weak link of the services producing sector for the province, decreased 19.2%. This trend was most noticeable in the regions of Annapolis Valley (-33.3%), Halifax (-19.4%) and Cape Breton (-19.2%). Strong employment growth was most visible in almost all regions within the following industries: professional, scientific and technical services; management of companies and administration and other support services; and accommodation and food service.

Employment by Industry, by Economic Region, Nova Scotia, 1989-1999

Economic Region	Nova Scotia			210 - Cape Breton			220 - North Shore			230 - Annapolis Valley			240 - Southern			250 - Halifax		
Year	'89	'99	'89-'99	'89	'99	'89-'99	'89	'99	'89-'99	'89	'99	'89-'99	'89	'99	'89-'99	'89	'99	89-'99
	000s	000s	%	000s	000s	%	000s	000s	%	000s	000s	%	000s	000s	%	000s	000s	%
Industry - Total	**382.1**	**408.6**	**6.9**	**53.6**	**52.7**	**-1.7**	**64.4**	**68.0**	**5.6**	**48.4**	**53.0**	**9.5**	**52.3**	**54.5**	**4.2**	**163.3**	**180.4**	**10.5**
Goods-Producing Sector	**101.1**	**90.7**	**-10.3**	**16.1**	**12.7**	**-21.1**	**21.3**	**21.0**	**-1.4**	**15.7**	**15.8**	**0.6**	**22.6**	**19.3**	**-14.6**	**25.4**	**22.0**	**-13.4**
Agriculture	6.7	6.9	**3.0**	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	1.9	**-13.6**	2.6	3.1	**19.2**	1.3	1.2	-7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil & Gas	16.9	15.0	**-11.2**	5.2	3.7	**-28.8**	1.8	2.2	**22.2**	1.5	1.2	**-20.0**	6.6	5.9	**-10.6**	1.8	2.0	**11.1**
Utilities	3.5	2.1	**-40.0**	0.6	0.7	**16.7**	0.6	0.0	**-100.0**	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.7	**-58.8**
Construction	26.4	21.8	**-17.4**	3.9	2.7	**-30.8**	5.4	3.8	**-29.6**	4.5	3.4	**-24.4**	3.3	2.5	**-24.2**	9.2	9.3	**1.1**
Manufacturing	47.7	45.0	**-5.7**	6.1	5.1	**-16.4**	11.3	12.7	**12.4**	6.6	7.9	**19.7**	11.2	9.6	**-14.3**	12.5	9.7	**-22.4**
Services-Producing Sector	**280.9**	**317.9**	**13.2**	**37.5**	**40.0**	**6.7**	**43.1**	**47.0**	**9.0**	**32.8**	**37.2**	**13.4**	**29.7**	**35.2**	**18.5**	**137.9**	**158.4**	**14.9**
Trade	68.3	70.7	**3.5**	9.5	9.6	**1.1**	11.7	11.6	**-0.9**	8.2	10.2	**24.4**	9.3	9.4	**1.1**	29.5	29.9	**1.4**
Transportation & Warehousing	19.1	21.0	**9.9**	2.4	2.5	**4.2**	2.8	2.9	**3.6**	2.4	2.8	**16.7**	1.3	2.2	**69.2**	10.1	10.6	**5.0**
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing	20.1	23.0	**14.4**	1.6	1.8	**12.5**	2.8	1.9	**-32.1**	1.7	2.4	**41.2**	1.7	1.6	**-5.9**	12.3	15.3	**24.4**
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	11.5	17.4	**51.3**	0.7	1.6	**128.6**	1.3	1.9	**46.2**	1.3	1.2	**-7.7**	0.6	1.0	**66.7**	7.7	11.7	**51.9**
Management of Companies & Admin. & Other Support	7.5	14.1	**88.0**	0.9	1.3	**44.4**	1.1	0.9	**-18.2**	1.0	1.3	**30.0**	0.0	1.4	–	4.1	9.2	**124.4**
Educational Services	27.2	30.8	**13.2**	4.5	5.0	**11.1**	4.8	5.7	**18.7**	3.1	3.5	**12.9**	3.1	3.2	**3.2**	11.8	13.3	**12.7**
Health Care & Social Assistance	40.4	48.0	**18.8**	6.4	7.5	**17.2**	6.2	7.8	**25.8**	4.9	5.8	**18.4**	4.5	6.1	**35.6**	18.5	20.9	**13.0**
Information, Culture & Recreation	13.0	15.3	**17.7**	1.1	2.1	**90.9**	1.7	1.7	**0.0**	1.6	1.3	**-18.8**	1.3	1.2	**-7.7**	7.3	9.1	**24.7**
Accommodation & Food Services	22.5	28.7	**27.6**	4.0	3.0	**-25.0**	3.7	4.9	**32.4**	1.9	3.4	**78.9**	2.6	3.1	**19.2**	10.2	14.2	**39.2**
Other Services	19.8	23.2	**17.2**	2.7	3.0	**11.1**	3.4	4.2	**23.5**	2.6	2.6	**0.0**	2.7	3.9	**44.4**	8.4	9.6	**14.3**
Public Administration	31.7	25.6	**-19.2**	3.8	2.7	**-28.9**	3.6	3.5	**-2.8**	4.2	2.8	**-33.3**	2.1	2.1	**0.0**	18.0	14.5	**-19.4**

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 71-543-GIE, Guide to the Labour Force Survey; CD-ROM 71F0004XCB, Labour Force Historical Review, 1999

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries

(November 2000 will be released February 5, 2001)

Employment and average weekly earnings growth contributed to the 1999 overall strength in wages and salaries. The annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 6.5% in Nova Scotia and at 5.3% in Canada in 1999.

Growth in total wages in salaries between January and October 2000 over the same period in 1999 was 6.2% in Nova Scotia and 7.2% for Canada.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia - $millions - Actual

	1994	1997	1998	1999	Jan.-Oct. 1999	Jan.-Oct. 2000
Total Wages & Salaries	8,984.0	9,478.2	10,122.7	10,777.8	8,946.6	9,498.0

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry

(November 2000 will be released January 30, 2001)

In 1999 the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia increased 1.5% to $518.06 per week, up $7.71 from 1998. The Canada average weekly earnings figure of $610.40 was up $4.08 or 0.7% over 1998. October 2000 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were $525.05, an increase of 1.3% over October 1999. Canada's $628.83 represented an increase of 2.6% over the same period in 1999.

Earnings vary across industries. In September 2000 the highest average weekly earnings were in the mining industry with a national average of $1,149.72 compared to $856.66 in Nova Scotia. At the other end of the scale, the trade sector recorded average weekly earnings of $478.11 nationally and $404.02 in Nova Scotia.

Average Weekly Earnings by Industry, Nova Scotia - $ - Actual

	1994	1998	1999	Sept. 2000	Oct. 2000**
Industrial Aggregate	**$495.55**	**$510.35**	**$518.06**	**$527.69**	**$525.01p**
Goods Producing	**595.88**	**655.81**	**660.67**	**673.43**	
Forestry	491.94	480.27	472.15	514.46	
Mining	845.03	849.19	870.31	856.66	
Manufacturing	580.27	668.26	692.80	712.23	
Construction	547.04	598.29	568.39	592.76	
Service Producing	**471.51**	**475.78**	**483.74**	**492.46**	
Transportation, Communications	639.94	628.00	652.56	682.87	
Trade	350.06	390.97	397.46	404.02	
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	560.56	582.06	592.30	588.67	
Community, Business & Personal	443.44	442.13	445.10	451.61	
Public Administration	672.24	658.07	678.04	693.80	

*** Data by sector will be available when the monthly publication is released.*

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. Therefore, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data which were derived from survey questionnaires.

Beginning with January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will be based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC).

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted and smoothed-

(January 2001 will be released February 7, 2001)

The December 2000 help-wanted index was 181 in Canada; unchanged from November. Provinces showing the largest increases in the help-wanted index were Prince Edward Island (+2.9%), Alberta (+1.7%), and Ontario (+1.0). The index decline in British Columbia (-0.6), New Brunswick (-0.5), and Newfoundland (-0.5). Nova Scotia's index was unchanged from the previous month.

Help-Wanted Index, Nova Scotia & Canada - 1996=100 -seasonally adjusted-

	Dec. 2000	% Change Dec 1999-Dec 2000	% Change Nov. 2000-Dec. 2000
Nova Scotia	165	-1.8	0.0
Canada	181	7.7	0.0

Note: The Help-Wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intention to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons. The historical revision of the help-wanted index implemented with the March 2000 data released monthly revisions from January 199".

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division (available on CANSIM: matrix 105)

Employment Insurance

(November 2000 will be released January 24, 2001)

There were 22,570 beneficiaries (unadjusted for seasonal trends) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in October 2000, an decrease of 1.9% from October 1999. Nationwide there were 356,870 beneficiaries, a decrease of 9.6% from October 1999. With the exception of Nunavut, the number of regular Employment Insurance benefit recipients in all provinces and territories decreased in October 1999.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits
-unadjusted-

	October 2000p	% Change October 1999 - October 2000
Canada	356,870	-9.6
Newfoundland	27,340	-7.7
Prince Edward Island	5,470	-5.7
Nova Scotia	22,570	-1.9
New Brunswick	23,400	-5.1
Quebec	131,430	-10.1
Ontario	69,840	-8.4
Manitoba	7,950	-11.9
Saskatchewan	7,430	-2.7
Alberta	18,850	-23.2
British Columbia	40,770	-11.8
Yukon	760	-11.6
Northwest Territories	680	-11.7
Nunavut	320	23.1

Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada have discovered an underestimation in the calculation of the number of beneficiaries of Employment Insurance that affects the beneficiaries file from January 1997 to April 2000. Consequently, the departments have agreed to correct the underestimation and conduct an historical revision of the data series back to January 1997. In the meantime, preliminary data for the number of beneficiaries, aggregated at the provincial level for July and August 2000 were tabulated by Human Resources Development Canada and provided to Statistics Canada. Users are cautioned against making any analytical comparison between this data and any monthly or historical data previously released.

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

	1994*	1998*	1999*	3rd Qtr 2000**	% Change 3rd Qtr'99/ 3rd Qtr'00
Federal Government (includes military)	30,308	23,863	23,328	23,322	-1.2
Military	14,865	12,186	11,676	11,039	-4.7
Provincial General	13,963	11,450	11,857	12,204	-4
Universities & Colleges	9,465	10,127	9,093	7,620	-2.5
Health & Social Services Institution	27,467	26,038	26,753	27,054	1.3
Local General Government	7,930	7,698	7,552	7,515	-4.9
School Boards	16,765	17,014	17,036	13,377	1
Total Government	**105,898**	**96,190**	**95,619**	**91,092**	**-1**
Government Business Enterprises	**8,594**	**8,196**	**7,062**	**6,325**	**-11.9**
Total Public Sector	**114,492**	**104,386**	**102,681**	**97,417**	**-1.8**

! Figures by jurisdiction do not add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools in particular

Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports